

Migration from the Netherlands to Alberta (Canada)

Why people move

Mark ter Veer
Population Studies

M.terVeer@home.nl

The Hague, July 2009

Population Research Centre
Faculty of Spatial Sciences
University of Groningen

Supervisors:

Prof. Dr. L.J.G. van Wissen
Dr. A. Bailey

*Population Research Lab
Department of Sociology
University of Alberta*

Supervisors

*Prof. F. Trovato
Dr. M. Haan*

Preface

I am on a train travelling from The Hague to Groningen; a temporary internal migration. The reason and motivation is simple: joining my girlfriend for the weekend and a birthday celebration with friends. It's been more than a year since I moved to Edmonton to undertake research for my master thesis. The result of this research you have before you at this very moment. I interviewed people in one of the most pleasant and beautiful areas in the world: Alberta in Canada. Not only did I like the city of Edmonton, but it gave me the opportunity to explore the Rocky Mountains, drive along long stretching highways and enjoy a freedom that you can only feel in Canada.

This section of the paper gives me the opportunity to thank a few persons. First of all, I would like to thank the people of the University of Alberta for their time and effort, especially Frank Trovato and Michael Haan, who supervised my stay and my work. In addition to this I'd also like to thank Beverly Wald, who arranged my stay in every possible detail.

I also owe thanks to Rosita Setz (Buysse), Ingrid Been (Emigratiebureau.com) and Marga (Canadian Consulate) for their excellent information about the migrants and their migration process. In addition to these experts, I would like to thank Henk ten Wolde, who advised me throughout my preparation and spend some nice time with me in Edmonton. Thanks also to the respondents, who took their time to help me gathering the crucial information and stories, especially Gea Hoogendoorn, who provided me with an excellent list of Dutch migrants near Lacombe.

The Dutch Canadian Club in Edmonton helped me with the search for respondents and I thank Charlie Tsang for giving me the opportunity to broadcast a radio commercial and even explain my research live on air. I thank the Association for Canadian Studies in the Netherlands and the Canadian Studies Centre from the University of Groningen for the financial support, which made it possible to move to Canada.

From the University of Groningen, I especially thank Prof. Dr. Leo van Wissen and Dr. Ajay Bailey for their excellent help and guidance in the construction of my master thesis. Thank also to Drs. Paul van Steen, who helped me with the contacts in Canada. In general, I thank the coffee club of our faculty, for spending so many hours with joy, fun and friendship; Zernike was a great time. From them, I especially thank Christien and Frank for helping me with just everything and sharing their friendship.

I say thanks to Judith, for the joy and spirit that helped me in the final stage. Finally, I thank my parents, who gave me to opportunity to go to college and supported me all the way. I could not have done this without the support.

Thank you all!

Mark ter Veer
July 2009

Content

Preface	iii
Content	v
List of Tables.....	vii
List of Figures	vii
Summary	ix
1. Introduction	1
2. Theory	7
2.1 A theory of migration.....	7
2.2 Economic theories	8
2.3 Network and system theories	9
2.4 Theory of planned behaviour.....	10
2.5 Value expectancy model.....	11
2.6 General model of decision making	11
2.7 Conceptual model	13
3. Methodology.....	17
3.1 Grounded theory.....	17
3.2 Data collection	18
3.2.1 Interview guide.....	19
3.2.2 Fieldwork.....	19
3.3 Analysis.....	20
3.4 Research area.....	21
3.5 Respondents	23
3.6 Discussion.....	24
4. Results.....	27
4.1 Characteristics	27
4.2 Gender.....	29
4.3 Satisfaction.....	31
4.4 Family	32
4.5 Expectations.....	34
4.5.1 Social expectations	34
4.5.2 Physical expectations.....	35
4.5.3 General expectations	36
4.6 Constraint/facilitator.....	38
4.7 Knowledge/networks.....	40
4.8 Destination.....	41
4.9 Evaluation.....	43
4.9.1 Integration.....	43
4.9.2 Disappointments	44
4.9.3 Evaluation.....	46
4.10 Farmers versus non-farmers	47
4.11 Inductive model	48
4.11.1 Gender	49
4.11.2 Satisfaction	50

4.11.3	Family	50
4.11.4	Expectations	50
4.11.5	Constraint/facilitator.....	51
4.11.6	Knowledge/networks.....	51
4.11.7	Destination	51
4.11.8	Farmers versus non-farmers	51
5.	Conclusion.....	53
5.1	Inductive model	53
5.2	Main conclusion.....	54
6.	Discussion	57
7.	Ethics.....	59
7.1	Participation	59
7.2	Analysis and reporting.....	60
7.3	Discussion.....	60
8.	Literature.....	61
Appendix A		63
Appendix B		65

List of Tables

Table 1-1 Emigration countries.....	2
Table 2-1 Gross wage earning comparison.....	9
Table 3-1 Migration to Canada	21
Table 3-2 Dutch population in Canada, Alberta and Edmonton	23
Table 3-3 Factor versus migration outcome.....	24
Table 4-1 Year of departure	27
Table 4-2 Number of migrants per Province.....	28

List of Figures

Figure 1-1 Migration statistics Netherlands (1980-2007).....	1
Figure 1-2 Characteristics of people with and without migration intentions	3
Figure 1-3 Assessment of living in the Netherlands.....	4
Figure 1-4 Expectations about destination.....	5
Figure 1-5 Goal of research.....	5
Figure 2-1 A theory of migration	7
Figure 2-2 Model of planned behaviour.....	10
Figure 2-3 General model of migration decision making	12
Figure 2-4 Conceptual model.....	13
Figure 3-1 Population growth Canada and Alberta.....	21
Figure 3-2 Population change Alberta and Canada (2001-2008).....	22
Figure 3-3 International annual migration (2001-2008)	22
Figure 4-1 First inductive model	49
Figure 5-1 Second inductive model	53
Figure 5-2 Goal of research	55

Summary

This research tries to answer the main questions, stated as “to what extent do the attitudes, norms and perceived behavioural control play a role in the migration of Dutch migrants to Canada?” and “to what extent do other factors, not indicated in the theory, play a role in the migration of Dutch migrants to Canada?”. Therefore, interviews were conducted amongst 20 migrants & three experts and examined with ATLAS.ti™ based on the method of grounded theory.

It can be concluded that networks and family do not have an influence on migration, contrary to some theories. Gender has an influence, only on intention, whereas expectation, (dis)satisfaction and constraints/facilitators have an influence on both the intention and migration behaviour. New to existing theories is the influence of religion on the migration process: it strengthens the faith of migration (removes constraints to migrate) and creates a social circle.

1. Introduction

“Where is the emergency Exit?”, “Talent leaves the Netherlands en masse”, “Netherlands is becoming empty”, “The sick man” and “Gone from the Netherlands” (ter Bekke et al., 2005; van Dalen et al., 2008). These are just five of the numerous headlines of Dutch newspapers about migration in 2004 and 2005. The reason: an increasing number of Dutch emigrants ‘fleeing’ from the country. This trend is visible during the last decades, but there has always been a high number of immigrants.

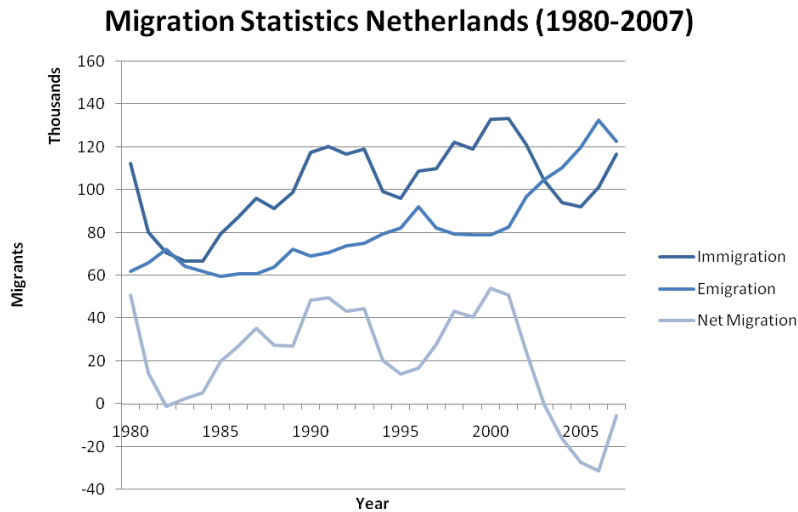


Figure 1-1 Migration statistics Netherlands (1980-2007)

In 2003, the shift has been made from an immigration country to an emigration country. The number of immigrants is still high, ranging from 132,000 in 2000, lowering to 92,000 in 2005 but gaining momentum again to 116,000 in 2007. However, the number of emigrants shows a steady increase to 132,000, with a small stabilization in 2007. This leads to a net migration with a maximum of 31,000 people. The high number of emigrants in 2006 was the reason for newspapers and other media to cover the subject of emigration. People are fleeing from the country, was a sentence that was heard in the media. But to where? The statistics from the CBS in Table 1-1 clearly show that Belgium and Germany are the main receiving countries.

Table 1-1 Emigration countries

Country of destination	Percentage of total migration
Belgium	17.4
Germany	15.2
United Kingdom	7.8
Dutch Antilles	5.7
Spain	5.3
United States	5.3
France	4.8
Australia	3.5
Turkey	2.0
Canada	2.0
Switzerland	1.9
Norway	1.6
Sweden	1.5
China	1.4
Italy	1.3
New Zealand	1.1
South Africa	1.1
Thailand	1.0
Austria	1.0
Suriname	0.9

Source: (Statistics Netherlands, 2008)

The two neighbouring countries of the Netherlands combined account for 32.6 per cent of the total emigration. One might argue that this movement is not migration, but can merely be seen as border migration; the people move to another country, but still have their work and social life in the Netherlands. This movement can be explained due to differences in taxes, house prices or land prices (van Dalen et al., 2008). The numbers seem small, but one per cent still accounts for 1000 people who made the decision to migrate. But why do people migrate from a country that is famous for its social security and economy? And who are those people?

These questions were raised by politicians and media. Researchers tried to explain this migration behaviour. Research of NIDIⁱ showed that “two per cent of the Dutch population (15 years and older) wants to migrate in the future” (ter Bekke et al., 2005). From this two per cent, about a tenth has serious plans to move in the upcoming years. Van Dalen (2008) shows that, of the people who had plans to migrate, more than a third migrates within two years. This means that, with a total population over 16.4 million people and a population of 13.4 million aged 15 years and older, there are about 270,000 people who have the intention to migrate, with 27,000 of them who have serious plans. The other 243,000 are not sure about the migration behaviour.

Based on research of NIDI, ter Bekke gives us the characteristics in terms of age, education and total net income (see Figure 1-2). The majority of the potential migrants are between the age of 35 and 44 years old. Of the people aged 55 and older, only a small percentage has the intention to migrate in the upcoming years. This strong diversity is less visible in the category household income. The biggest difference in intentions can be seen in the groups earning less than 2000 euro and more than 4000 euro, where the differences in the other groups are minimal. When looking at the category education, a clear trend can

ⁱ Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, The Hague

be seen. The three lower educational classes show a smaller intention to migrate compared to the three higher classes (2005).

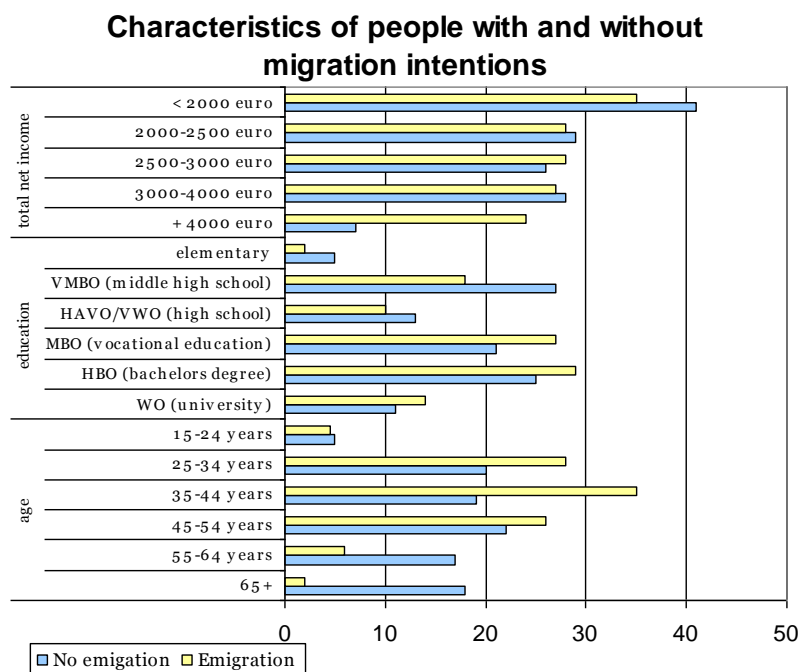


Figure 1-2 Characteristics of people with and without migration intentions
Source: (ter Bekke et al., 2005).

This intention may lead to an increase in the amount of higher educated people migrating from the Netherlands. Van Dalen (2008) raises the question that is relevant for the economic stability and brain drain: “does this wave of emigration causes a loss of human and financial capital?”. But there are more relevant issues that deal with migration. Van Dalen asks if emigration might be a search for a higher standard of living or a better use of talents or that it might be seen as an expression of frustration and dissatisfaction. To answer these questions, they looked at the characteristics associated with private and public domain. This is based on the research by NIDI, on which ter Bekke wrote the assessment of living in the Netherlands.

Figure 1-3 shows the assessment of the Dutch people, who participated in ‘Emigratie 2005’ and additional data from the Expat-fair 2004. It gives a first idea of the satisfaction the potential migrants have. The motivations and reasons for migration are grouped in three groups; public space, welfare state and living conditions. In the first group, the factors density of population, mentality of population, crime, silence, environment, pollution and multicultural community are placed. The second group gives the factors legal system, retirement, social security system, health care, educational system. The third group with the living conditions is filled with employment, income, residence and social contacts. From the figure, one can see that in all the variables, the percentage (very) negative is higher for the migrants than for the non-migrants. Especially the numbers for the public space are striking. Migrants tend to be very negative about the population density, mentality and crime rate. Furthermore, one might say that people tend to be more negative about the public space and more positive about their own living conditions. Van Dalen (2008) concludes that “contemporary migrants escape from the Netherlands due to personal observed lack of quality of the public domain”. But as Lee pointed out in his

theory of migration (Lee, 1966), there are factors associated both with place of origin and destination. Therefore, ter Bekke also focuses on the expectations the potential migrants have about their destination country.

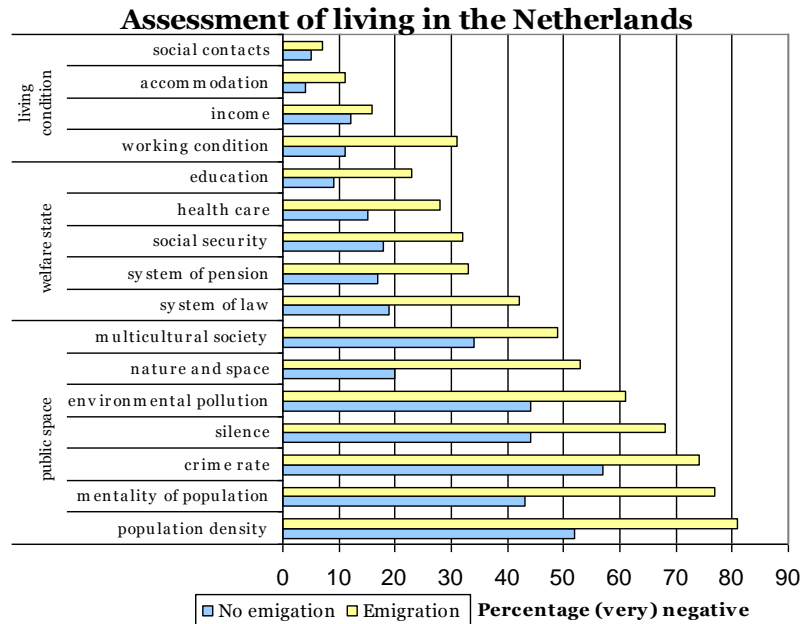


Figure 1-3 Assessment of living in the Netherlands

Source: (ter Bekke et al., 2005)

Again, the public space is a factor that people have high expectations about. Especially the nature, silence and population seem to be the most positive valued goals in the migration process. Rosenblatt Associates (2009) published a list of the top 10 reasons to come to Canada. In this list, the good life (including a clean environment) is one of the main reasons. They state that Canada is the best place to live, based on statements of the United Nations; the highest standard of living for example. They also mention the growing economy and job market, top education, safety and security and multiculturalism. Overseas Emigration (2009) continues by stating that because migration is part of the evolution of Canada, “people from various countries throughout the world are therefore welcome in Canada, and migrants can be sure that they will feel accepted whatever part of the country they choose to settle in”.

It has to be said, that all factors from the research of ter Bekke are based on the intention potential migrants have. Do these intentions lead to the migration behaviour, are there perhaps more reasons or motivations or are there other factors associated with migration? Van Dalen (2008) clearly states that they do not know, “because the emigrants are questioned *before* their migration”. Why would someone migrate from a country, which is famous for its social security system and economic situation? Why would someone give up its social network and move to a new adventure? These questions cannot be answered with data from Statistics Canada, due to the fact that migrants are not asked for the actual reason.

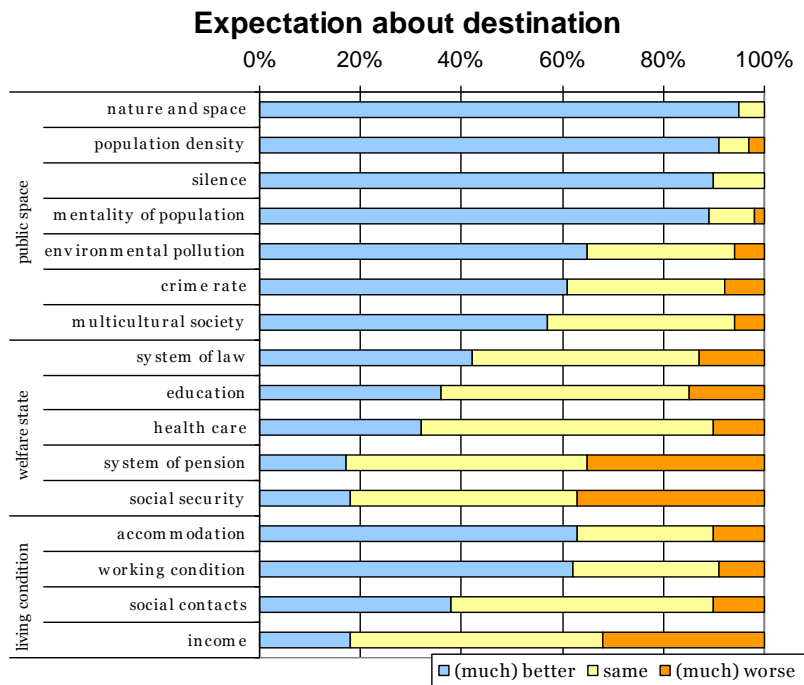


Figure 1-4 Expectations about destination

Source: (ter Bekke et al., 2005)

This research tries to explain the migration behaviour of Dutch people and includes research in one single country: Canada. The choice for Canada and its province Alberta is explained in section 3.4. The goal of this research is to study to what extent the theories are an adequate representation of migration behaviour of a group of Dutch migrants to Canada. To reach this goal, a comparison had to be made between the empirical data and the theory:

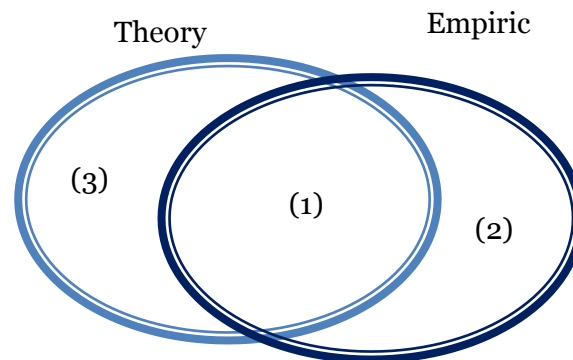


Figure 1-5 Goal of research

There are three possible outcomes for the comparison between theory and empiric, as shown in Figure 1-5. First, the theory and empiric data can be conformable, as shown as '(1)'. However, there are factors or ideas, which are not dealt with in the theory, but come up in the interviews or empiric data. This is shown as '(2)'. The third and final possibility are factors that are covered in the theory, but do not come up in the empirical data as such. This is shown as '(3)' in Figure 1-5. These possibilities lead to the two research questions:

To what extent do the attitudes, norms and perceived behavioural control play a role in the migration of Dutch migrants to Canada?

To what extent do other factors, not indicated in the theory, play a role in the migration of Dutch migrants to Canada?

The first research question gives the possibility as mentioned as '1' and '3': the factors that are included in the theory and tests if these factors are included in the interviews. The second research question gives the possibility as mentioned as '2': the factors that are not included in the theory but that come up in the interviews. This might shine a new light on the models and theories on migration behaviour and might provide a framework which can explain why so many people want to migrate.

2. Theory

This chapter deals with the existing theories that are relevant for the migration decision-making process of the Dutch people. First, the theory of Lee will be examined, followed by the economic (2.2), system and network theories (2.3). In section 2.4, the theory of planned behaviour will be discussed by the value-expectancy model in section 2.5. Section 2.6 explains the general model of decision making, as constructed by de Jong. Finally, in section 2.7 the (deductive) conceptual model will be explained.

2.1 A theory of migration

In 1966, Everett S. Lee published his 'theory of migration'. He stated that "no matter how short or how long, how easy or how difficult, every act of migration involves an origin, a destination, and an intervening set of obstacles" (Lee, 1966).

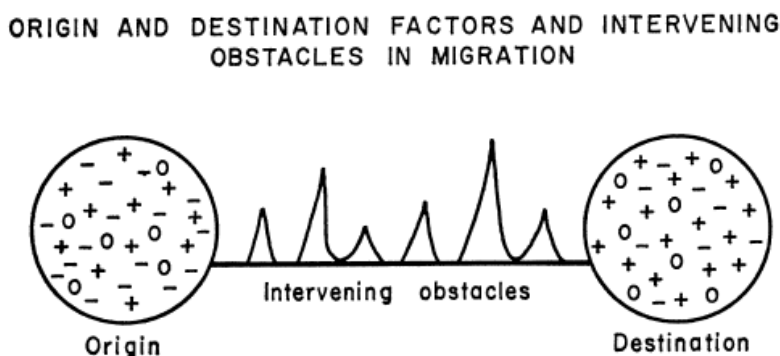


Figure 2-1 A theory of migration
Source: (Lee, 1966)

He pointed out the four key factors:

- factors associated with the area of origin;
- factors associated with the area of destination;
- intervening obstacles;
- personal factors.

The first three are clearly visible in Figure 2-1. The +, 0 & - signs represent the factors that attract or repel the area of destination/origin. Factors can be different for every migrant and influenced by personal factors like income, duration of stay at the place of origin etcetera. Lee states that migration may result from the comparison of plusses and minuses, but that the intervening obstacles have to be overcome. "The balance in favour of the move must be enough to overcome the natural inertia which always exists" (Lee, 1966). Again, this balance and 'natural inertia' may differ for every potential migrant.

Lee also gives some characteristics of migrants. He stated that (1) migration is selective, which means that migrants are "not a random sample of the population" and differ in terms of the personal factors. People who (2) respond to the positive factors at

destination are positively selected and people who (3) respond to negative factors at origin are negatively selected. This means that highly educated people migrate because of better offers (positive at destination) and uneducated people migrate because of the economy (negative at origin). This positive and negative selection leads to the conclusion that (4) selection seems to be bimodal, which means that only the 'positive' or 'negative' groups migrate. For example the economic migration; only the upper class migrates because of better job offers while the subclass leave due to unemployment. In the middle group, the amount of migration is much lower. This bimodal selection seems to increase when (5) the degree of positive selection increases with the difficulty of the intervening obstacles. The higher the constraints, the more trouble the weak or incapable have with the migration process. Other factors are the (6) changes in life cycle; entering the labour market, marrying or divorcing lead to an increase in migration. When migrating, the migrant tends to change from the characteristics of the population at origin to the population at destination. However, (7) the migrant tends to intermediate between these characteristics. Even before they leave, "migrants tend to have taken some of the characteristics of the population at destination, but they can never completely lose some which they share with the population at destination" (Lee, 1966).

2.2 Economic theories

One of the most classic theories that tries to describe and explain migration is the neoclassical economical theory on macro level. This theory states that "international migration, like its internal counterpart, is caused by geographic differences in the supply of and demand for labour" (Massey et al., 1993). The difference between supply and demand leads to differences in the wages, which causes "workers from the low-wage country to move to the high-wage country" (Massey et al., 1993). This result will lead to equilibrium of the wages in the receiving and sending countries. The micro level neoclassical economics shows a similar reason; "people choose to move to where they can be most productive, given their skills" (Massey et al., 1993). It is therefore the movement of the human capital, maybe even the investment in the human capital. On this micro level, "individual actors decide to migrate because a cost-benefit calculation leads them to expect a positive net return, usually monetary, from movement" (Massey et al., 1993). The third theory that focuses mainly on the economy is the 'new economics of migration'. This theory differs from the neoclassical theories by stating that individuals do not make the decision, but these are made by a "larger unit of related people – typically families or households – in which people act collectively not only to maximize expected income, but also to minimize risks and to loosen constraints associated with a variety of market failures, apart from those in the labor market" (Massey et al., 1993).

These three economic theories clearly state that people migrate purely because of wages and income. If people migrate because of a wage gap, the other way around, people should not migrate if the wages and income are similar. Table 2-1 shows the gross wage earnings and Gross Domestic Product at Purchasing Power Parity in 11 countries, including the Netherlands. When using the economic theories, one might ask why people move to Canada, Norway and the United Kingdom, which count for 11.4 per cent of the total migration. The six countries above the Netherlands account for 43.8 per cent (see Table 1-1). The economic theories cannot explain why the other 56.2 per cent of the international migrants move.

Table 2-1 Gross wage earning comparison

Country	Gross Wage Earning	GDP PPP (rank)
Australia	38,330	36,226 (17)
Denmark	37,582	37,256 (15)
Belgium	35,622	35,388 (19)
Germany	35,203	34,212 (21)
United States	34,934	45,725 (6)
Switzerland	34,411	41,265 (8)
<i>Netherlands</i>	<i>34,062</i>	<i>38,995 (11)</i>
Canada	34,038	38,614 (12)
Norway	33,221	53,152 (3)
Korea	33,207	24,803 (34)
United Kingdom	32,896	35,634 (18)

Source: (International Monetary Fund, 2008; OECD, 2008)

A fourth capital maximisation theory is the human capital theory. This approach “argues that potential migrants base their migration decision of an assessment of the anticipated future stream of benefits (both monetary and physic) as a consequence of migration” (Boyle et al., 1998). “Crucially, migration streams need not be dominated by flows from low-wage to high-wage areas, since a whole variety of social, environmental and economic factors can drive migration” (Boyle et al., 1998). Although this theory covers more than just money, it still assumes that people migrate because they possess the perfect information about destination. But the “principal problem with the human capital approach [...] is the way it treats the information processed by the potential migrant” (Boyle et al., 1998). But the “model is hardly able to explain the details and dynamics of migration flows, basing its explanations of migration on wage differences and assuming the homogeneous economic person to make decision under conditions of perfect certainty, no costs, perfect information and the absence of risk” (Fischer et al., 1997). The basic and static person in the economic model does not exist in the ‘real’ life, as Lee pointed out with the personal factors. Therefore, it can be concluded that the ‘pure’ economic theories cannot explain the migration behaviour. They might have an influence, but as a whole, the economic theories do not suffice.

2.3 Network and system theories

Where economic theories only focus on the wage differentials and relative risks, the network theory includes connections between country of origin and destination. Migrant networks are defined as a set of interpersonal ties that connect migrants, former migrants and non-migrants in the sending and receiving countries (Massey et al., 1993). These connections or information lines lower the costs and risks of the migration process. It also increases the net return, because the former migrant can provide adequate information. After the migration of a certain number of people, “migration becomes self-perpetuating because each act of migration itself creates the social structure needed to sustain it” (Massey et al., 1993). However, the problem still exists with explaining the pioneers in the migration behaviour (Hammar, 1997). Faist states that network theories try to explain migration with the factors pioneers and chain migration, which leads that family or friends follow the pioneers in the society. But “this literature is more successful in explaining the direction [...] than the volume of international movement” (Faist, 1997).

Massey et al. state that migration cannot always be seen as a system of origin and destination countries, due to the fact that a variety of socio-economic linkages exist in a wide range of migration situations. Because the link between origin and destination and the forthcoming migration patterns tend to be very consistent over time, interrelationships exist between *all* of the socio-economic component (Massey et al., 1993). Although this system theory proposes a more elaborate way of explaining migration, it has been criticised and is not widely adapted by researchers. Mainly due to the fact that it places a very high burden on the required data and furthermore because the 'real world' is seen as a very isolated system, without the social component found in other theories (Massey et al., 1993). Therefore, both the network and system theory do not seem suitable to explain motivations and reasoning of migrants.

2.4 Theory of planned behaviour

A theory that gives great importance to the reasoning and intentions is the theory of planned behaviour. After Martin Fishbein and Icek Ajzen published the book on 'Belief, attitude, intention and behavior' (Fishbein and Ajzen, 1975), there have been numerous changes in the model of planned behaviour. The most recent and up-to-date model was published on the personal webpage of Icek Ajzen.

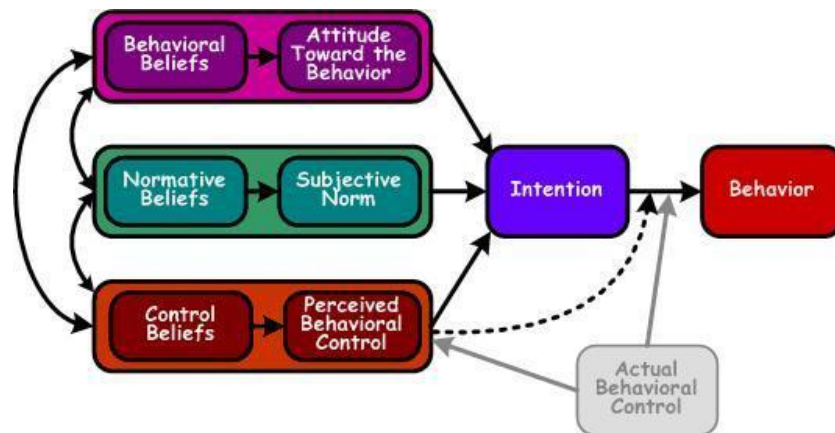


Figure 2-2 Model of planned behaviour
Source: (Ajzen, 2006)

This model shows that attitudes, norms and perceived behavioural control influence behaviour through intention. The behavioural beliefs, in other words the 'subjective' probability that behaviour will lead to a certain outcome, lead to the attitude. This attitude towards the behaviour is defined as "the degree to which performance of the behavior is positively or negatively valued" (Ajzen, 2006). The subjective norm is the "perceived social pressure to engage or not to engage in a behavior" (Ajzen, 2006). This is caused by the expectations family and friends have, in combination with the degree at which the individual tries to comply with these expectations. The third factor that influences the intention is the perceived behavioural control. Ajzen defines this as the "people's perceptions of their ability to perform a given behavior" (2006). These expectations of behaviour, or in other words beliefs, link to the control beliefs; the presence or absence of factors that facilitate or block performance.

To translate these abstract terms into the field of migration, one can think of three examples for attitudes, subjective norms and perceived behavioural control. For the

attitudes one might look at the expected consequences of migration; ‘what will be my economic situation?’ or ‘will I still be in contact with my family?’ Subjective norms can refer to the social pressure; like ‘what will my father think of that?’ and ‘how will my friends react?’ But it also refers to the motivation and degree of individuals to comply with that; like ‘why do I listen to my father?’ Perceived behavioural control can refer to the ease or difficulty of migration; like ‘do I have enough money to migrate?’ It is clear that these concepts cover different factors like economic and social norms.

Where both the attitudes and subjective norms only have an indirect influence on behaviour, through intention, the perceived behavioural control has both a direct and an indirect influence. The ability of an individual to perform such behaviour as migration, can be directly influenced by the constraints like economic or the physiological situation. One might have the intention to migrate, but if the conditions do not allow the behaviour, it cannot be executed. Ajzen defines the intention to perform a certain behaviour as “an indication of a person's readiness to perform a given behavior, and it is considered to be the immediate antecedent of behavior” (Ajzen, 2006). If the intention is not there, the behaviour itself is not present. The actual behaviour refers to the “extent to which a person has the skills, resources, and other prerequisites needed to perform a given behavior” (Ajzen, 2006).

This theory gives a clear but very abstruse or theoretical model. To translate this to the migration processes that exist in the world, one might look at the ‘value expectancy model’ and the ‘general model of decision making’ of de Jong.

2.5 Value expectancy model

All migration reasons (for example job opportunities, family reunion etc.) have goals (i.e. values or objectives) and expectancies (i.e. subjective probabilities). De Jong and Gardner propose equation 1, a ‘value-expectancy model’ (1981).

$$MI = \sum_i V_i E_i \quad (1)$$

In this formula, *MI* is the intention (or strength of intention). This is constructed by summing all the values of the outcome (*V*) and the expectancy that migration will lead to this desired outcome (*E*). De Jong and Gardner state that migration “depends on the expectancy that the act will be followed by a given consequence (or goal) and the value of that consequence (or goal) to the individual” (1981).

As pairs, they give strength to the migration intention of individuals. The other way around, “if either the importance of a particular value is low or the expectancy concerning is weak, the component will contribute little to total intention” (de Jong and Gardner, 1981). This VE-model shows us that migration intentions are based on multiple objectives and expectancies.

2.6 General model of decision making

The theoretical ‘value expectancy model’ was translated into a more practical model by de Jong (2000) and used in research that focuses on the determinants of permanent and temporary out-migration of females and males in rural Thailand.

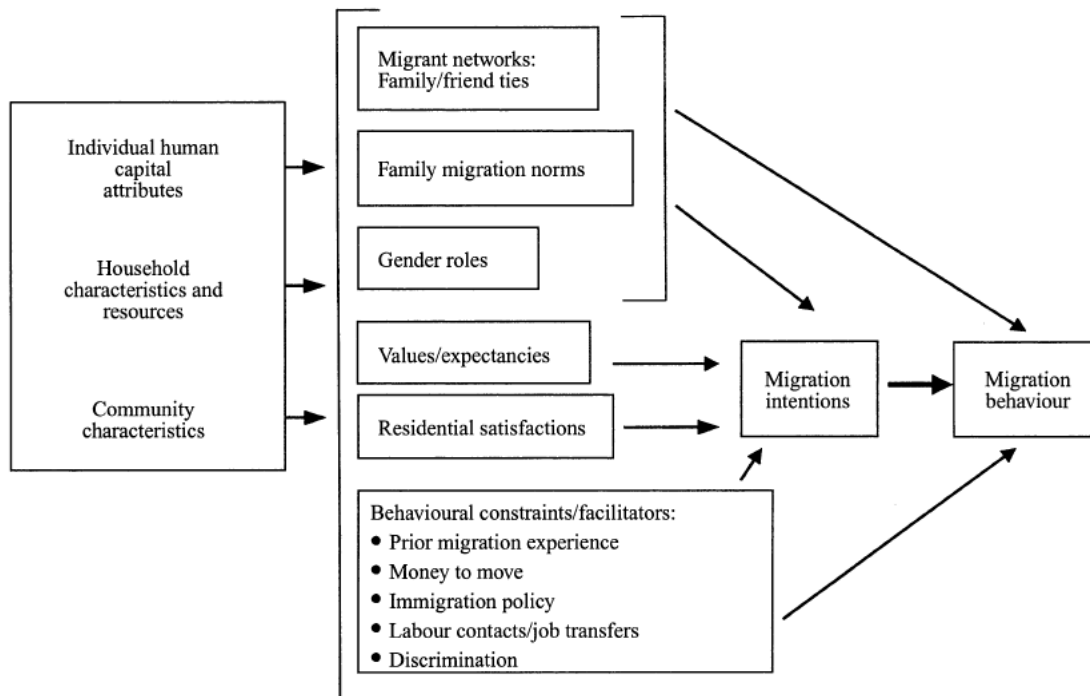


Figure 2-3 General model of migration decision making

Source: (de Jong, 2000)

He states that the factors that influence the intention and behaviour are caused by individual, household and community characteristics. Examples of the individual human capital attributes are age, education and marriage. For age, it is shown that “young adults [...] are more likely to move than persons of other age groups”. A higher education “helps define the information individuals and families have about potential destinations and the skills necessary for the job market” and marriage “may reduce mobility intentions, particularly in a large family with dependent children and elderly” (de Jong et al., 1996). Household characteristics and resources can create pressure due to limited household resources, for example “a large family with dependent children and elderly”. But family also works in a positive way in migration, because “family networks not only provide information but also lower the costs and risks of migration by providing housing and employment contact” (de Jong et al., 1996). The ‘community characteristics’ is the group that consist of larger contextual factors, like economic situation and policies.

These three characteristics lead to the six factors that influence intention and behaviour: migrant networks, family migration norms, gender roles, values/expectancies, residential satisfactions and behavioural constraints/facilitators. De Jong concludes that intention can be seen as a proximate determinant of migration. There is enough statistical evidence stating that permanent migration is caused by the intention. Second, the intention is influenced by the expectancies about locations for valued goals. This is the same for men and women. Further on, gender roles play an important role in the migration process, together with the previous migration experience. De Jong concludes that “none of the usual explanatory variables of migration intention – i.e. human capital (education), household income levels, landownership, or community context variables – [...] were statistically significant factors when measures of expectancies, satisfactions, and gender roles were controlled in the model” (de Jong, 2000). Also, the migrant networks did not have a statistical significance. Family migration norms and marital status on the contrary play an important role in the migration decision making.

The conclusions are based on data from Thailand, an example of a “rural less developed country” (de Jong, 2000). It is therefore not justified to extract these conclusions to developed countries like the United Kingdom or Canada. However, the model seems to conceptualize the migration process in a practical way and it is therefore reasonable to test this in a developed country.

2.7 Conceptual model

Combining the different theories, a new conceptual model is based on the models by de Jong, Fishbein and Ajzen (Ajzen, 2006; de Jong, 2000; Fishbein and Ajzen, 1975). The theory of planned behaviour (Ajzen, 2006; Fishbein and Ajzen, 1975) is already transformed by de Jong (2000) into his new model. However, the attitude, norms and behavioural control are put ‘back’ into the new conceptual model. This is done to explain the ‘sudden’ originating of the six influencing factors. In his research, de Jong does not give a clear definition nor does he explain the sudden involvement of the separate levels (individual, household, community). It seems more logic to state that the influencing factors work on three levels and originate from the attitudes, norms and behaviour. In that way, the research question about the role of attitudes, norms and behavioural control can be better examined. De Jong provides the conceptualization of the concepts into the six influencing factors. These factors lead, through the intention, to the migration behaviour.

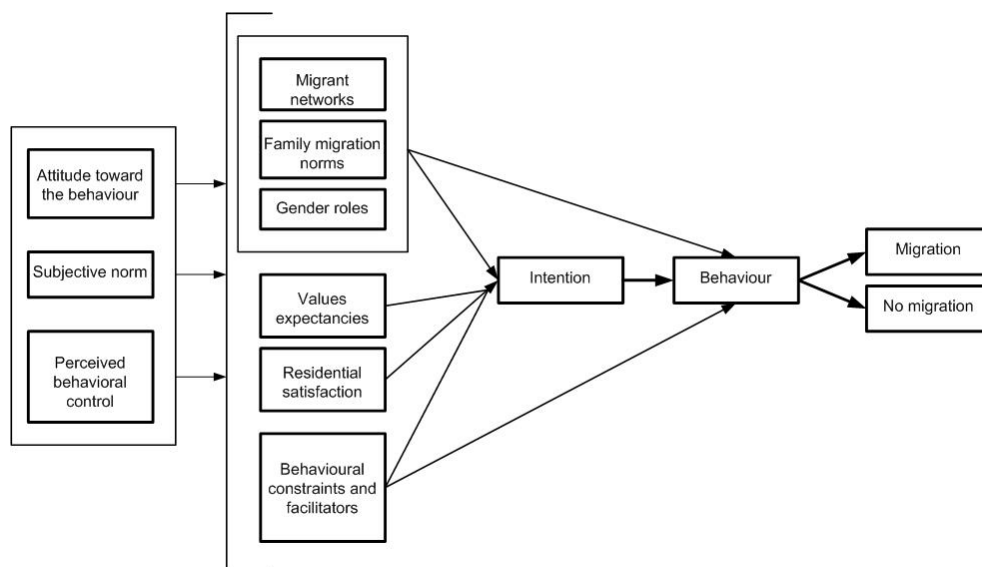


Figure 2-4 Conceptual model

Due to the fact that de Jong does not give a clear definition of the factors, the explanations of de Jong, Fuller and Massey are used to identify the factors (de Jong, 2000; Fuller et al., 1986; Massey, 1990). Migrant networks cover the friends, family and other ties one might have in the countries of origin or destination. In both countries this can lead to push and pull factors. A good family relation can restrain people to their hometown but a bad relation can also push people away. In the country of destination, the networks can influence the intention by providing knowledge and creating possibilities.

The family migration norms deal with previous migration behaviour amongst relatives. In other words, how ‘normal’ is it in a family to migrate. Negative experiences can cause restraints where positive experiences can help with the migration behaviour.

This is one of the key examples of the subjective norms, in other words, the “social pressure” (Ajzen, 2006).

Gender roles play an important role in the migration decision making and “has a core influence on the statuses of males and females, their roles, and stages in the life cycle” (de Jong, 2000). It determines the opportunities males and females have in considering migration. The gender roles, which will be dealt with in this study, cover the influence males and females have compared to each other. This also links to the influence marriage has in the migration process. De Jong (2000) concludes that “being married [...] is negatively related to more permanent out-migration for both men and women”. This marriage factor can also influence the family migration norms discussed above.

These three factors influence the migration, both direct and through intention. They influence the behaviour directly by, for example, restraining due to negative family experiences of husband or wife who refuse to come along. Two other factors, the values/expectancies and residential satisfaction, do not have a direct influence on the behaviour.

The values and expectancies deal with the ideas migrants have about the country of origin and destination. In fact, they make a comparison between the two countries. The expectancies look at “the advantages and disadvantages of the home community (stay decision) versus possible alternative destination communities (move decision)” (de Jong, 2000). These dynamics of migration decision making are a main factor (Fischer et al., 1997).

The comparison between origin and destination leads to a residential satisfaction. This satisfaction covers the summary of the advantages and disadvantages of the home community; it deals with the economic, cultural and institutional factors in the home country. Variables that are involved in the residential satisfaction are “satisfaction with job, income, and use of knowledge and skills” (de Jong, 2000).

The sixth factor is the behavioural constraints and facilitators. This factor has a direct and indirect influence (through intention) on the migration behaviour. The five variables, that de Jong sees as examples or variables are ‘prior migration experience’, ‘money to move’, ‘immigration policy’, ‘labour contacts/job contacts’ and ‘discrimination’.

- ‘Prior migration experience’, covers the experience the migrant (and spouse) have with migration processes. De Jong (2000) concludes in this article that “prior migration experience, a hypothesized direct facilitator of both intentions and behaviour according to Ajzen’s theory of planned behaviour, also is strongly related to future intentions to move”.
- ‘Money to move’, which influences the economic possibilities of migration. Migration costs money. If an individual does not have enough money to cover this, it becomes impossible to migrate.
- ‘Immigration policy’ can influence the migration in a positive and negative way. Countries that have a shortage of labour force can design policies to attract potential migrants to the country. On the other hand, selective migration policies (like Canada, the Netherlands or the United Kingdom for example) can make it harder for migrants to enter a certain country.
- ‘Labour contacts/job transfers’ can mainly be seen as a facilitator. Due to internal knowledge and contacts, it is possible that the employee will move to another country with help from the company. It must be stated that this study does not look at temporary migration but at permanent migration. This means that expatriate jobs (working for four or five years in a foreign country) are not dealt with in this study.
- ‘Discrimination’ can both be seen as a facilitator and constraint. Discrimination in the home country is mainly a facilitator, whereas the discrimination in the destination country is mainly a constraint. The Cambridge Dictionary of American English

(Cambridge University Press, 2008) defines discrimination as behaviour “to treat a person or particular group of people differently, especially in a worse way from the way in which you treat other people, because of their skin colour, religion, sex, etc”. Discrimination is not always based on race, skin colour or anything like that, but can also cover the sex or age discrimination. On the other hand, the same discrimination in the country of destination can be a restraint for people to move.

The attitudes, norms and perceived behavioural control can be seen as the factors that answer the questions ‘Do I *want* it?’, ‘Am I *allowed* to do it?’ and ‘*Can* I do it?’. The ‘behavioural constraints/facilitators’ are clearly linked to the ‘perceived behavioural control’ and the ‘values/expectancies’ and ‘residential satisfaction’ are clearly linked to the attitudes. The family migration norms also are clearly linked; in this case to the subjective norms. The migrant networks however cause more problems. It is linked to the attitudes, because networks can provide information on the country of destination and helps the migrant do decide if he/she wants to migrate. It also links to the norms, because prior migration might lower the threshold or norms for migration. The information about the destination country can also make it easier for migrants (for example, knowledge about rules and regulations) and therefore has a link to the perceived behavioural control.

The gender roles have a similar pattern, because it links to the attitudes and norms. The gender influences the question of ‘do I *want* to migrate?’, for example in the situation where the husband wants to migrate, which influence the willingness of the wife. It also links to the norms; for example, the threshold or norms will be lowered when the husband or wife decides to go with the migrant.

Due to the fact that these links between the factors of de Jong and the attitudes, norms and perceived behavioural control of the theory of planned behaviour are not indicated or explained in the research of de Jong, the links are not visible in the conceptual model. Therefore, the links are visualized as three ‘general’ links. This can be seen as an imperfection of the model by de Jong and his conceptual model.

3. Methodology

This chapter deals with the methodology used in the research. First, the grounded theory is explained in section 3.1, followed by the data collection in 3.2, including the interview guide and fieldwork. Section 3.3 gives the explanation of the data analysis, followed by the description of the research area in 3.4. The selection of the respondents is shown in 3.5, after which the chapter is concluded with a short discussion in 3.6.

3.1 Grounded theory

To see if this conceptual model is suitable to describe the migration behaviour, a second model, or inductive model, will be constructed. This will be done with interviews through the method of grounded theory. Strauss and Corbin (1998) describe grounded theory as theories “derived from data, systematically gathered and analyzed through the research process”. The researcher does not start with a deductive model or theory, but “rather begins with an area of study and allows the theory to emerge from the data”. That does not mean that other theories are not relevant, as Babbie pointed out when he described the grounded theory as the approach that “begins with observations rather than hypotheses and seeks to discover patterns and develop theories from the ground up, with no preconceptions, though some research may build and elaborate on earlier grounded theories” (Babbie, 2007).

In the first version of this grounded theory, Glaser and Strauss (1967) distinguish four stages. The four stages are “Comparing incidents applicable to each category”, “Integrating categories and their properties”, “Delimiting the theory” and “Writing theory” (Glaser and Strauss, 1967).

According to Denscombe (1998), grounded theory is useful in four kinds of research; qualitative research, exploratory research, studies of human interaction and small-scale research. Although Glaser and Strauss stated, in their first book in 1967, that the grounded theory can be used for both quantitative and qualitative research, it has become associated with only the qualitative data. This paper fits in the field of qualitative research, because it extracts its data from in-depth interviews and does not tend to generalise. It is also a small-scale research amongst a small group of participants. It cannot be seen as completely exploratory, because it makes a comparison between the deductive conceptual model and inductive model constructed from the collected data. It also does not fit in the study of human interaction. This research does not look at the migration decision process when it occurs, for example discussions or meetings with families who want to migrate, and therefore cannot be defined as a study of human interaction.

However, due to the fact that this research can be defined as both a qualitative and small-scale research, the use of grounded theory is well justified. The actual grounded theory approach that is used is the one by Strauss and Corbin, which includes both induction and deduction. They stress the importance of deduction and verification in social research. In that way, theories and concepts found can be checked in ‘reality’. Glaser criticizes the deductive ways, because it requires “the asking of numerous questions and

speculation about what might be rather than what exists in the data” (Heath and Cowley, 2004). Glaser does not use the ‘deductive way of thinking’ but uses induction through ongoing data comparison. Some critics like Keddy (Keddy et al., 1996) believe that the tools of Strauss and Corbin produce “a rigidity never intended for grounded theory” (Heath and Cowley, 2004).

The grounded theory provides an approach to form an inductive model based on interviews with migrants (see section 4.11). The grounded theory makes it possible to compare the deductive conceptual model with the newly formed inductive model. In that way, it can be concluded which factors in the models exist in theory, empiric data or in both (see section 5.2).

It has to be said that the formation of the inductive model is not entirely done with the principles of the grounded theory. The codes (described in section 3.3) were extracted from the interviews, but there is a bias in the formation of the concepts or factors. Due to the fact that the deductive model was already created, it was difficult to form a ‘new’ inductive model, purely based on the interviews without the knowledge of the theories and deductive model. Therefore, it has to be concluded that if this analysis and research was conducted without the deductive knowledge, it might be that a different inductive model had come out of the analysis.

3.2 Data collection

When using the grounded theory, the researcher has a variety of ways of collecting data. Like Strauss stated, “very diverse materials (interviews, transcripts of meetings, court proceedings, field observations, other documents, like diaries and letters, questionnaire answers, census statistics, etcetera) provide indispensable data for social research” (Strauss, 1987). But “there are certain methods that lend themselves better than others to use within a grounded theory approach” (Denscombe, 1998). This research tries to identify the reasons and motivations people had (or have) when they migrate(d) from the Netherlands to Canada. Data that is necessary for this study is ‘generated data’, which involves ‘reconstruction’ and requires “re-processing and re-telling of attitudes, beliefs, behaviour or other phenomena” (Ritchie and Lewis, 2003). According to Ritchie and Lewis, there are four ways in which data can be generated; biographical methods, individual interviews, paired (or triad) interviews and focus groups or group discussion.

This research combines the individual and paired interviews. The individual interview provides “an opportunity for detailed investigation of people’s personal perspectives, for in-depth understanding of the personal context within which the research phenomena are located, and for very detailed subject coverage” (Ritchie and Lewis, 2003). Paired (or triad) interviews, which “are in-depth interviews but carried out with two (sometimes three) people at the same time” (Ritchie and Lewis, 2003) are very useful when interviewing partners, colleagues, friends or family, if the researcher wants to know about dialogues amongst these pairs. It must be stated that bias may come up, because people could be influenced by each other and give socially desired answers.

The biographical method does not give the required information, because the degree of freedom is too high. The focus group discussions were not chosen, due to practical reasons. It first of all causes a too high burden on the respondents, because the distances in Canada lead to too much time loss for the participants due to travelling to a central point. Furthermore, this study wants to examine the reasons and motivations people had (or still have) when migrating. Therefore, it is not necessary to examine what people think about migration as a concept or to share experiences.

The paired interview can gain insight in the reasoning couples had when migrating. This research uses the method of semi-structured interviewing. This provides a list of issues and questions, but differs mainly in the degree of flexibility the researcher gives to the respondent. The order can differ and the respondent is given the time to “speak more widely on the issues raised” (Denscombe, 1998). The answers are therefore also open-ended. Other than the structured interviews there is no “tight control over the format of the questions” (Denscombe, 1998) and compared to the unstructured interviews the research does not have to “start the ball rolling by introducing a theme or topic and then letting the interviewee develop his or her ideas” (Denscombe, 1998).

The unstructured interviews cannot guarantee that all the research topics will be dealt with. However, the structured interviews do not allow the amount of freedom for the respondent to explain fully their ideas and experiences. Also, the structured interviews do not give room to talk about other aspects, that the researcher had not thought of before. Therefore, the semi-structured interview seems the logical choice. All the issues and themes can be covered, there is room for flexibility in the order and respondents can give new insights and aspects, the researcher has not come up with.

3.2.1 Interview guide

The construction of the interview guide was supervised by the Population Research Lab (PRL) of the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. The guide was made in English for the PRL and later on translated to Dutch, due to the fact that the interviews were done in Dutch. These questions were changed after two pilot interviews with students of the University of Alberta and later on again changed slightly after three interviews with Dutch migrants. The English translation of this Dutch interview guide can be found as Appendix A.

The order of the questions in the guide, as seen in the appendix, was not fixed. However, the interviews were held in a chronological setup; starting with the background, followed by the decision-making process and the migration, and ending with the reassessment. The order was also set to deal with the more emotional and ethical issues in the latter part of the interview. In this way, the respondents were comforted in the first section of the interview. Due to the fact that the six influencing factors are conceptualisations of the attitudes, norms and behavioural control (de Jong, 2000), the questions are derived from these factors to answer the research questions. However, it must be stated that in the majority of the cases the factors came up in the stories, not in the questions. The background information deals with the time of migration, age etcetera. The part of the decision-making process deals with the networks (*friends/family in Canada*), norms (*family members migrated before*), gender roles (*who came up with the idea*), expectancies (*future in Canada*) and satisfaction (*future in Netherlands and conditions*). It tries to find out why people wanted to migrate and what factors influenced the intention. The part about the actual behaviour itself deals with the links from the intention and the behavioural constraints and facilitators (*help with migration and obstacles*). The reassessment (or evaluation) tries to identify missing factors in the decision-making process and evaluates the family roles and constraints. These questions should make it possible to answer the research questions about both the existing concepts (attitudes, norms and behavioural control) and identify possible other factors.

3.2.2 Fieldwork

The interviews were conducted in a private and quite environment. In only one case, the respondent wanted the interview to take place in a restaurant. The interviews were most of the time done in the living room, at the respondents own house. In that way, people felt

comfortable and it did not take time for them to travel to a location. It was also more acceptable to speak Dutch, as one of the respondents explained. The respondents were given the choice for the language, by which all respondents choose the interview to be conducted in Dutch. Some migrants even explained that they were happy to speak Dutch to someone outside their own family. The interviews in or around Lacombe were conducted in a single week, whereas the other interviews were more spread out over a period of a few weeks. The interviews were recorded and later on transcribed, all with permission of the migrants.

3.3 Analysis

The actual analysis, based on the method of grounded theory, was executed with the computer program ATLAS.ti™ 5.2. This was done through the steps of open coding, axial coding and selective coding.

First of all, the interviews, which were recorded with a digital memo recorder, were transcribed with the program Transcriber™. This program helps to transcribe the interviews to text files, in which the interviews were written. This led to 23 text files, which were loaded into the program ATLAS.ti™. In this program, it was possible to code individual words, sentences or complete paragraphs. This coding was described as ‘open coding’ by Strauss and Corbin (1998) as the processes in which “data are broken down into discrete parts, closely examined, and compared for similarities and differences. Events, happenings, objects, and actions/interactions that were found to be conceptually similar in nature or related in meaning were grouped under more abstract concepts termed ‘categories’”. The coding in ATLAS.ti™ was done in three ways; open coding, ‘in vivo coding’ and coding by list. In vivo is coding as the actual word. For example ‘gezellig’: a Dutch concept that was coded in vivo. The open coding is also the creation of new codes, but they are not named after the actual quote, but are given a name. The ‘coding by list’ is selecting words or phrases and to give those the same code as was used in open coding or in vivo. This means that subsequent interviews can, most of time, be coded with the ‘coding by list’ option, although new codes may still arise. This process of open coding led to 56 codes or variables.

The next step in the analysis was the axial coding. This is defined as “a reanalysis of the results of open coding in Grounded Theory Method, aimed at identifying the important, general concepts” (Babbie, 2007). In ATLAS.ti™, this is done through creating families of codes. For example, if one has made the codes ‘chair’ and ‘couch’, the family code (or axial coding) can be ‘furniture’. The 56 codes that came out of the open coding in this research were transformed with the axial coding into 16 general concepts.

The third step of the method was the selective coding, which is defined as the process in which the “analysis builds on the results of open coding and axial coding to identify the central concept that organizes the other concepts that have been identified in a body of textual materials” (Babbie, 2007). In ATLAS.ti™, this is done through the creation of super families, which consist of the general concepts. In this research, this led to the creation of 12 central concepts.

This way of coding (open coding, axial coding and selective coding) led to the 12 central and 16 general concepts. The next step in the process, was the concept mapping, defined as “the graphical display of concepts and their interrelations, useful in the formulation of theory” (Babbie, 2007). This led to a new inductive model (see Figure 4-1 and Figure 5-1), which includes the general and central concepts. The new inductive models show the relations between the concepts and form the basis for the analysis with the deductive model of Figure 2-4.

3.4 Research area

To test the deductive conceptual model and to form an inductive model, research was undertaken in Alberta, Canada. The choice for Canada is mainly based on the high amount of Dutch people migrating to the country (Table 1-1) in combination with a similar (or lower) GGP and GDP PPP (Table 2-1). It is also one of the traditional emigration countries; people migrated from their ‘beloved Holland’ to the ‘new world’ (Sinnema, 2005). Furthermore, the percentage of migrants to Canada of the total emigration has been stable for the last 12 years. Table 3-1 shows that no clear cut-off points are visible, caused by policy changes, economic crises etcetera.

Table 3-1 Migration to Canada

	Total Migration	Canada Migration	Percentage Canada of Total
1995	34,848	757	2.17
1996	35,742	957	2.68
1997	33,137	832	2.51
1998	32,076	873	2.72
1999	30,833	903	2.93
2000	32,749	923	2.82
2001	34,240	821	2.40
2002	35,830	843	2.35
2003	35,899	719	2.00
2004	38,467	829	2.16
2005	45,291	1,010	2.23
2006	49,303	1,040	2.11
2007	48,101	964	2.00

Source: (Statistics Netherlands, 2008)

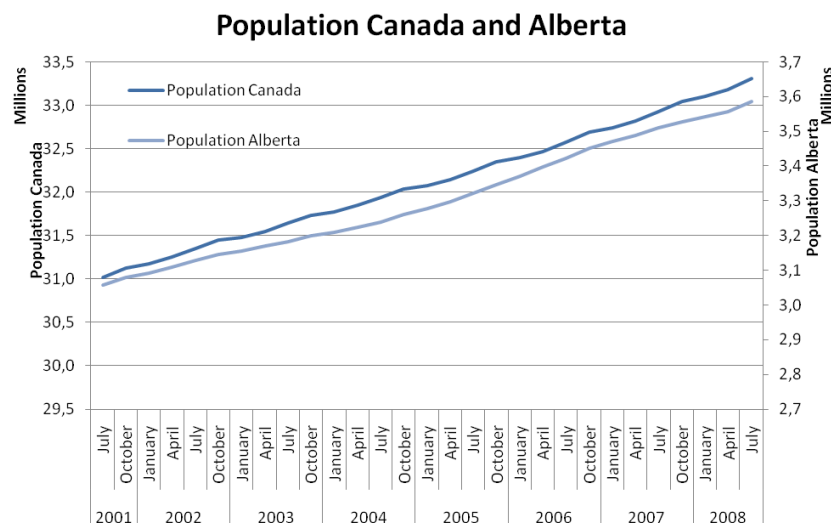


Figure 3-1 Population growth Canada and Alberta

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2008)

The choice for the province of Alberta in this research is based on data from Statistics Canada. They concluded that for “a third consecutive quarter, Alberta posted the sharpest

population growth of all provinces” (Statistics Canada, 2008). It is completely in line with the development in the whole of Canada, as shown in Figure 3-1.

Although the births are the biggest contributors to the population increase, the international migration has a big share in this. Alberta “posted the highest rate of international migration in the country, and saw its inter-provincial migration rate rebound” (Statistics Canada, 2008).

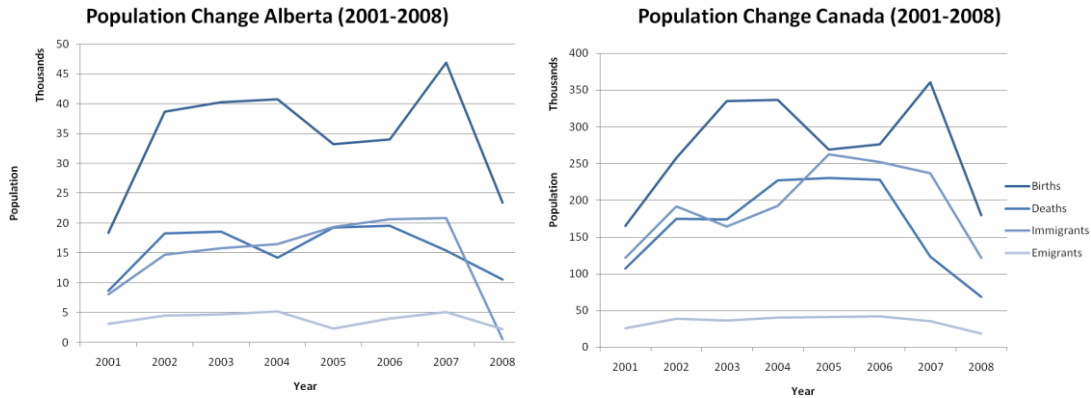


Figure 3-2 Population change Alberta and Canada (2001-2008)
Source: (Statistics Canada, 2008)

International Annual Migration (2001-2008)

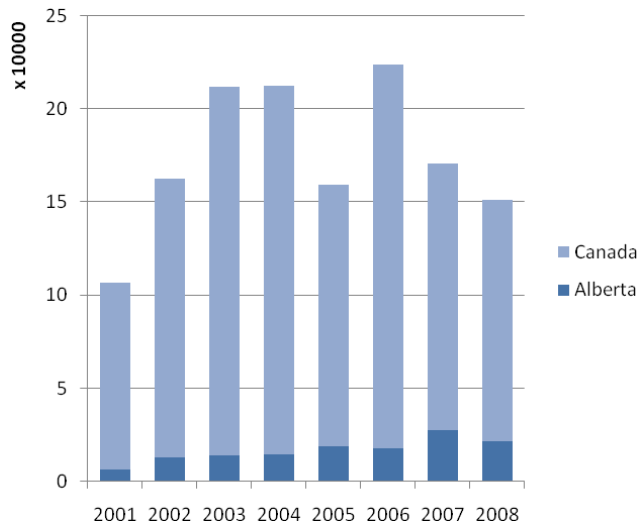


Figure 3-3 International annual migration (2001-2008)
Source: (Statistics Canada, 2008)

Statistics Canada shows from the Census 2006 that over 170,000 former Dutch citizens now live in the province of Alberta. This is 5.3 per cent of the total population in Alberta and is the highest in Canada. The city of Edmonton has a similar percentage of former Dutch citizens.

Table 3-2 Dutch population in Canada, Alberta and Edmonton

	Canada	Alberta	Edmonton	Calgary
Population	31,241,030	3,256,355	1,024,820	1,070,295
Dutch population	1,035,965	172,910	49,280	47,650
Percentage Dutch	3.3	5.3	4.8	4.5

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2008)ⁱⁱ

The province of Alberta and the city of Edmonton are therefore well suitable to undertake research on Dutch migration.

3.5 Respondents

The respondents had to meet some criteria for selection. First of all, the respondents had to live in or around the city of Edmonton. This city was chosen because it has the largest number of Dutch immigrants (see Table 3-2). In this research, a combination was needed of farmers and non-farmers. The latter group could easily be found in the rural areas, but for the first group it was necessary to go to a bigger city. One expert reasoned that Edmonton would be the best city (compared to Calgary) due to the fact that it is a good combination of a booming economy and expanding community. The point that Edmonton houses the University of Alberta and its central location makes it the ideal place to start the research. Choosing one city, or area, makes it possible to describe the *overall* motivations and reasons at a later stage in the research.

Second, the respondents all came from the Netherlands and migrated in the last 18 years. In other words, they migrated after 1990. This time period was chosen to combine the advantages of creating enough possible respondents (a too short period leads to a small research population) and comparability of reasons (when using a too long period, there can be differences in the reasoning due to economic and cultural situations). The year 1990 is relevant due to an increasing amount of rules and regulations for farmers. For example, in 1990, the European Commissioner started the first reformation of the agricultural policy, by splitting the production and consumption. This was done to cope with the surplus of wine, milk and butter (Europees Parlement Bureau Nederland, 2009). This led to an increase in the amount of rules and regulations.

There were no selection criteria on sex, age or profession. However, during the research, attempts were made to include a diverse sample in the study. The selection criteria led to a sample of 20 in-depth interviews; of them were conducted as individual interviews, four of them as paired interviews amongst couples.

Several ways were used to find and contact the research population. First of all, a local/regional radio station (World FM) was so kind to broadcast a commercial during their Dutch programme. Second, the Dutch club in Edmonton published an advertisement in their magazine. But the most effective way of reaching the research population was the snowball recruiting strategy. This sampling method is very useful when the research population is hard to find. In this method, the researcher starts with interviews, after which he or she asks “those individuals to provide the information needed to locate other members of that population whom they happen to know” (Babbie, 2007). This ‘snowball’ refers to accumulating more respondents through each other respondent.

ⁱⁱ Table “Ethnic Origin (247), Single and Multiple Ethnic Origin Responses (3) and Sex (3) for the Population of Canada, Provinces, Territories, Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations, 2006 Census - 20% Sample Data”

In addition to these interviews with Dutch migrants, three interviews were conducted with professionals in the field of migration. Two of these interviews were conducted with people in the Netherlands from 'Emigratiebureau.com' and 'Buysse Immigration'. Both companies help Dutch people with the migration process: they guide migrants with visa, jobs and other aspects. The third interview was conducted with a representative of the Dutch consulate in Canada. Data from these interviews were treated in the same ways as the data from the migrants.

3.6 Discussion

This research focuses on people who had the intention to migrate and later on decided to migrate. To investigate the influence of certain factors, one must look at the different outcomes of the intention and behaviour. The migration process functions in two steps: first the intention to migrate and thereafter the actual migration behaviour.

Table 3-3 Factor versus migration outcome

Factor		Intention to migrate		Migration	
		no	yes	no	yes
		for example, dissatisfaction	yes	1	2
	no	4	5	6	

If one looks at, for example, the influence of the dissatisfaction in the Netherlands, there are two possibilities: a potential migrant is or is not dissatisfied. In the migration process, a potential migrant can or cannot have the intention and, if one has the intention, he can decide to migrate or to stay. In that way, there are six possibilities (see Table 3-3). This research works with outcome three and six (migrants) and can investigate if people were satisfied in the Netherlands. People who did not have the intention to migrate or decided to stay were not interviewed in this research. It is therefore impossible to make a comparison between the groups (two and five versus three and six). For further research, it is recommended to investigate the factors between all the six groups, which means that three different groups have to be examined: migrants, people who decided to stay and people who did not have the intention at all.

Choosing a certain time period can also cause massive bias or research errors. This research looks at the last 18 years. The time period was deliberately long, due to practical reasons. When using a small time span, the probability of finding willing respondents becomes much smaller. This was already concluded before the fieldwork in Canada started. When using a longer time span of more than 20 years, one might have problems, with the reasons and motivations, which change over time. Economic situation (1980s: crisis vs. 1990s: booming), politics (1989: Berlin wall, 1990: agricultural influence of the European Union) and social changes can cause major differences in the migration motivations. Therefore, a period of 18 years (1990 – 2008) was chosen.

Respondents all live in Alberta. The majority of the sample population lives in Edmonton or in/around Lacombe (smaller town, south of Alberta's capital Edmonton). This geographical scale and area was chosen because it houses a relative large amount of Dutch people. It is therefore possible to draw conclusions for this research population.

A problem that arises when the method of snowballing is used is the non-random sampling. This means that the group that is reached with this method might have great similarity with the other respondents. This can cause biases in the conclusion, due to the

fact that factors and ideas correspond with each other. Much attention was paid to this bias and conclusions were checked in the whole sample, not in subgroups.

One other problem is the fact that only one single was interviewed in this research. Therefore, conclusions for singles are hard to justify. When using this time period and area, it is not possible to extract the conclusions to a larger time period or other provinces. The data represents the thoughts and reasons of the individuals in the research sample. Because the snowball recruiting strategy was used as a sampling method, certain groups might not have been reached. It is therefore possible that other reasons, motivations and thoughts exist in the research population. However, this research does not try to generalize the conclusions to all Dutch migrants or estimate a certain probability. Therefore it is not necessary to come to a certain confidence interval, which would need a random sample. In that way, the number of respondents and method of sampling seems justified.

However, in further (and more elaborate) research, it might be wise to find and contact the research population in other ways. One might consider the use of regional newspapers, institutions and more elaborate snowballing.

4. Results

This chapter deals with the results that came out of the interviews. First, the background of the respondents is shown in 4.1. The factor gender is explained in 4.2, after which the satisfaction (4.3), family (4.4) and expectations (4.5) are described. The constraints and facilitators are shown in 4.6, followed by the knowledge and networks in 4.7, continued by the destination in 4.8. An evaluation of the migration process is shown in 4.9, followed by a comparison of farmers and non-farmers in 4.10, after which a new inductive model is drawn in section 4.11.

4.1 Characteristics

To come to an inductive model and describe the various reasons and motivations, the characteristics of the migrants have to be clear. Things like age or place of residence can lead to different ideas and motivations of migration. The research looks at the migration between 1990 and 2008. The distribution of the number of migrants in the years is printed in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1 Year of departure

Year	Number of migrants
'90	2
'94	1
'95	1
'96	1
'97	2
'98	2
'99	1
'00	1
'01	1
'02	2
'05	3
'06	1
'07	1
'08	1

This table shows that there are two missing periods, the time spans of 1991-1993 and 2003-2005. However, the other migrants are well spread over the given time period. Therefore, it is justified to state that this study covers the migration process between 1990 and 2008. Because this study does not wish to generalize it is not necessary to get a representative sample.

Another characteristic that can influence the migration motivations and reasons is the place of departure. For example, it is well known that the western part of the Netherlands ('Randstad') has a higher population density and is therefore busier to live in.

Reasons like space and relaxation might be a stronger factor for people who moved from these dense populated parts. Two of the experts state very clearly that people moving to Canada come from all over the Netherlands;

“I can’t name a certain area that empties due to migration.” (expert)

This is represented in the sample of the study. Table 4-2 shows the provinces from which the respondents moved.

Table 4-2 Number of migrants per Province

Province	Number of migrants
Groningen	3
Friesland	2
Overijssel	2
Flevoland	2
Utrecht	1
Noord-Holland	1
Zuid-Holland	7
Brabant	2

Zuid-Holland has a higher representation in the sample, whereas Utrecht and Noord-Holland have only one case. The provinces of Drenthe, Gelderland, Limburg and Zeeland are not present in this study. The combination of a high number in Zuid-Holland (part of the Randstad) and no cases from four provinces outside the Randstad might lead to a bias in the conclusions and analysis. Therefore, much attention was paid to the province of origin when examining the different concepts and variables.

The third characteristic on which the respondents were selected is the place of residence. All 20 respondents live in the province of Alberta; 12 of them in or around Edmonton, the capital of Alberta. Eight of them live in or around Lacombe; a smaller town 140 kilometres south of Edmonton.

All the eight respondents in or around Lacombe are farmers. In the sample, a total of eleven farmers can be found. They make a living out of agriculture, pigs, cows or broilers. Nine of them were already farmers back in the Netherlands and two started their own farm in Canada. The non-farmers in this study make a living as manager, researcher, artist, analyst, project accountant or advisor. The majority of these nine non-farmers already had a similar job in the Netherlands.

In general, it can be stated that out of the 20 respondents, only three switched in their career. The other ones now have a similar job as they had back in the Netherlands. A better position in a career might still be a reason, but a real career change is not always present. Only one of the non-farmers started his own company. This is not in concordance with one of the experts, who state that;

“there is a large group of people who’ll start their own company or work as an individual in a bigger company.” (expert)

The sixth and last factor that is grouped under characteristics is the family. This variable covers the composition of the family who moved with the migrant. This includes age, children and so on. One of the experts states that the vast majority of the migrants moves with the whole family, most of them composed of father, mother and one or two children. Like another expert says, it is “cross section of the population, from mechanic till millionaire and from 24 till parents of migrants.” (expert) On average, they “move as a couple with one or two children.” (expert) This statement is confirmed by the sample group, which consists of one single, three couples without children, nine couples with two

children and seven couples with three or more children (composition at the time of migration). The age of the parents and children match the statements of the experts, who state that the majority of the migrants are between the age of 25 and 45 years old. Only a small group “is older than 60, from which the majority are people who already have children in Canada.” (expert) Most of the children were 12 years or younger when they migrated. Parents say that they did not want to migrate when the children would be older:

“Yes, real young. Because at that age, you can take them to another place [...] If the oldest would be 16, I do not know if it would be wise to move.” (mother of three children)

But even with young children, moving can be a problem:

“Especially the oldest, he was 10 and already had a fair-sized social life. He was therefore the one who had the biggest trouble adjusting.” (father of two children)

The characteristics are used as background data to compare the different answers, reasons and motivations. The discussion, in chapter 6, will show the influence of the characteristics on the subsequent concepts and factors.

4.2 Gender

According to de Jong, gender plays an important role in the migration process (de Jong et al., 1996; de Jong, 2000). The Merriam-Webster Dictionary (2005) defines gender as “the behavioral, cultural, or physiological traits typically associated with one sex”. In this research this can lead to different reasons and behaviour for man and woman. From the 20 interviews with migrants four were done as paired interviews, with both the man and woman present. The other 16 interviews were conducted amongst men (seven) or women (nine). The three codes that are grouped under the concept gender are ‘first idea’, ‘female role’ and ‘agreement male and female’.

The code ‘first idea’ covers the quotations made by the respondents about the start of the migration process. People were asked about their initial ideas about migration and about the person who came up with the first idea. The experts do not agree with each other in this case. One of them states that the traditional role pattern still holds; “it is the man that takes the lead, the woman follows”, whereas the other two experts state that it is more differentiated; “both come up with the first intentions” or “sometimes the man, sometimes the woman”.

From the interviews it becomes clear that there is a large diversity in the reasoning of the migrants. Four migrants explain that either the man or the woman was the one that came up with the first idea. This was due to work;

“I got a job offer” (man, non-farmer)

or holidays;

“I enjoyed a holiday in British Columbia.” (woman, farmer)

It must be stated that all these quotes were made by the interviewed migrant. This means that none of the migrants told that the partner had come up with the first idea. It might be that this is a coincident, but this can also be that people tend to place themselves in a leading role. The majority of the respondents explain that the couple as a whole came up with the first idea or made the decision. This is similar for the interviews with men, women and couples. One migrant states that she “had equality with her partner” and that

“they wanted it both very much”. This diversity of male-female role is in concordance with two of the experts.

A second code, the ‘female role’, covers the quotations in the interviews that focus on the explicit role woman have in the decision making. Three of the respondents mentioned this role and state that wives follow their husband;

*“yes, I wanted to try it. But if I hadn’t met him I would not have lived here”
(woman, non-farmer)*

or

“my role? Easy... Be open to it” (woman, non-farmer)

are sentences mentioned. Strangely, only the women mention this explicit role of the wives. Two experts clearly state that this subordinate role does not exist in the majority of their cases, but state that “if the woman requests information, you know that the whole family wants to migrate” (expert). This statement seems justified by the fact that none of the couples or men came up with the role the female had in the process. To conclude, it must be stated that the traditional role of male-female (man takes the lead, woman follows) is not present in the majority of cases. However, there are still families (three in this research) that function in the traditional way.

A third code, that focuses on the relationship between man and woman is the ‘agreement male and female’. This agreement is constructed from the advice the migrants give, with respect to relationships. One man state that;

“if you have a wife that doubts if she wants to come along, don’t start with the whole process.” (man, farmer)

The advice about agreement turned up in five interviews, all stating that both man and woman should have a desire to migrate, otherwise problems will arise. Like one of the migrants explained,

“I always say; if the husband wants to migrate for the full 100 per cent and the wife wants it for only 99.9 per cent, please stay in the Netherlands.” (man, farmer)

A story told in one of the interviews explains the migration process of a Dutch couple who returned to the Netherlands after three years. In this case, the husband wanted to migrate, leading to a desire of the wife to move back to the Netherlands. This resulted into “a flaming row” and the decision to move back.

It is wise to look further into the differences between the male and female in the migration process, mainly due to the fact that three of the families function in a traditional way; a subordinate role of the woman. This (explicit) subordinate role can have its influence on almost all other factors, discussed in sections 4.3 till 4.10. The actual analysis of these factors follows in the upcoming sections, but this section gives an impression of the gender influence on the factors. In the traditional role, the most profound influence can be noticed on the homesickness, in the evaluation stage. One female migrant, in the subordinate role, explains;

“When we came here, I cried for the first weeks. I thought it was terrible. What have I done? ... I felt really sick.” (woman)

Other migrants only mention homesickness in a brief sentence, but this migrant is a good example of the impact of the gender; a subordinate role of the female in this case leads to (in this case) homesickness. Although there is a difference in the evaluation, the gender does not seem to have a big influence on the actual migration process with this

migrant. This migrant has similar expectations and satisfaction, family react the same as those of the man and constraints/ facilitators are shared.

In the two other cases, where the woman has taken the subordinate role, there is a different situation. The women follow the men in the traditional way, but they take their responsibility in the migration process. It is not the man that arranges everything, but they join together or the woman takes control. The man got a job offer or a desire to migrate, the woman complies with this satisfaction but they join together in the remaining of the migration process. Other influences of gender are not seen in the interviews.

4.3 Satisfaction

From the first interview on it becomes clear that Dutch migrants are satisfied in Canada, they like the country and its way of living. Compared to this, it becomes clear that some people were dissatisfied in the Netherlands. This satisfaction covers the physical and mental satisfaction people felt when they lived in the Netherlands. There seems to be a big difference between farmers and non-farmers in the ideas and reasons.

Rules and regulations come up in all the interviews with farmers. The experts already state that Canada has less rules and regulations concerning farming and offers more opportunities. But the farmers do not tend to look at the rules in Canada, they are exasperated by the rules the Dutch and European government has come up with.

“We wanted to leave the Netherlands. To a land without rules, no people around that would tell you how you should run your farm but the situation that you can tell what you want and how you want it.” (woman, farmer)

“Just the regulations. There were just too many loopholes, too much rules that would make it hard for farmers.” (woman, farmer)

This, in combination with the economic situation, was a reason for farmers to move. They explained that you could either buy quota or land, but that you did not have the opportunity to expand your farm in both ways. It has to be said that, although the farmers saw the rules as a thread or as a restraint, they still think that they would have survived in the Netherlands. They might have expanded their farm, but they would not have expanded it like they have done this in Canada.

The economic situation for non-farmers is different; all of them had a good future in the Netherlands. Most of them had an income above the average with good economic prospects. One of the experts even said:

“They have a good life. I sometimes even have people who say, ‘I wouldn’t dare to say, we have a good life, we are enjoying it, we have a nice social life. Nice job. And still, Canada is pulling’...” (expert)

One of the migrants further explains:

“Well, in a material way there was no reason to complain. My income was more than triple the national average, excluding a yearly bonus. So my retirement fund is ready now... But that is not the only thing in life, we wanted more. And I don’t mean more money.” (man, non-farmer)

Although the economic situation and physical satisfaction differs between farmers and non-farmers, the social satisfaction is similar. Most of the migrants had a good social life, lots of friends and still look back upon a great time they had in the Netherlands. But

since they first came up with the idea, they focus on the negative aspects of their country of origin.

“It started with wanting to move to Canada. But the more you focus on that; you will see things you don’t like in the Netherlands. You don’t like them, because you’re planning to migrate. If you don’t go, you don’t want to see them.” (woman)

Things like ‘crime rate’, ‘space’ and ‘people’ already come up in this section. But none of the migrants was really dissatisfied in the Netherlands. Maybe one, who state that he would,

“work or look to the holidays in the Netherlands.” (man, non-farmer)

But again, he would have managed. They also mentioned the step of leaving the Netherlands. Most of them did not have any difficulties with that, contrary to the family. These family reactions and norms are discussed in section 4.4.

4.4 Family

Family migration norms have “a strong positive relationship with [...] out-migration behaviour for both males *and* females” (de Jong, 2000). Based on that research, one might expect that family has a large influence on the whole migration process. But although the migrants mention the relatives and family networks in Canada or other parts of the world, this seems to have a minimal influence on both the behaviour and intention. Prior migration from family to, for example, Australia, France, Denmark or Canada is not common in most of the families.

“No, I am the only one out of twelve who left.” (man)

“I do not know any relatives or friends who migrated to Canada or another country.” (woman)

But even if relatives already moved to Canada, this is not a reason for migration, as one of the migrants explains.

“Yes, we already had, my husband already had some relatives here. But that is not the reason why we migrated. We had the goal to be farmers around here.” (woman)

Therefore, it seems that prior migration is not a key factor or concept. This prior family migration is further discussed with the variable ‘friends and family in Canada’ in section 4.7. Family of the (potential) migrant all react in a similar way; most of the time with an obvious negative slant to it. The experts agree with each other:

“Close relatives and good friends go through a mourning period. They stick their head into the sand. They don’t talk about it. If I don’t talk about it, they might not go at all.” (expert)

“Some say great, do as you want. Others say... they’re fed up with it. Of course, they hate it. Saying goodbye is tough. Especially since the period of care for parents’ starts” (expert)

The experts seem to be the persons with the best helicopter view; this ‘mourning period’ is also mentioned in a few interviews with migrants. On the other hand, only one of the migrants said that he was stimulated by the family to migrate, but the other 19 families experienced restraint from the family.

“People thought we were crazy. What do you seek in Canada? You know what you have here, you know what you’ll leave, a certainty. They didn’t understand that you would quit your job, sell your house and other things.” (woman, non-farmer)

Although families of both farmers and non-farmers do not like to see their relatives migrate, a slight difference can be seen, especially in families where farming is a family tradition.

“My grandparents didn’t like it and they still don’t. From my father’s side, they accept it now. My grandfather and grandmother have been here within a year and since then my grandfather said, I wish you would have done it sooner.” (woman, farmer)

They can understand why farmers leave the Netherlands and see new economic prospects in Canada. Non-farmers have more difficulties explaining their migration intentions and behaviour. One of the reasons that is mentioned in eight of the 20 interviews is the grandchildren.

“That you leave, all right. But we don’t like it that our grandchildren are that far away.” (woman)

This makes it difficult for grandparents to accept the migration of their children. This is where the factor of the family composition of the characteristics fits in. Families with children seem to have a much bigger constraint or more family reactions than those without children. This is caused by the grandchildren, of which the grandparents and other relatives have trouble saying goodbye to. For the migrants themselves, these family reactions can cause homesickness and other restraints for the migration process. Due to the fact that this research does not cover migrants who returned, no conclusions can be based on these migrants and the reasons for going back. But the 20 interviews show that the family reaction was not a ‘real’ restraint for migration. As one of the migrants explained, they already made the decision to move, without consulting the family. Therefore, the family does not have a direct influence on the intention or behaviour, but it can have an influence as a restraint. These restraints are covered in section 4.6.

When the migrants talk about the family and their reaction, there is a difference between reaction before and after the migration. There is a huge shift from the negative reaction on the intention and the behaviour to a positive reaction after the behaviour. As one of the experts explains;

“Once the children moved to Canada, they will see that they are happy over there. And they will see what they have. It is just the moment of getting adjusted to that; yes and then they are gone.” (expert)

This change or shift is most of the time visible after visits from family;

“Yes, they changed completely. Especially since they’ve been here, saw us and saw all of it. They understood why we had done it.” (woman, farmer)

The family, in most of the cases, can then understand why the migrants made the decision to move, but still do not like it that their family (especially the children and grandchildren) is that far away. They would prefer to have their family much closer. This shift in thinking is more profound for the families of farmers than those of non-farmers. They think that it would have been better to stay in the Netherlands. Brothers and sisters still reproach the migrants that they fled from the Netherlands, when the time of caring for parents started. This argument does not go away after the migration. One of the migrants points out:

“And yes, now they get older and need more help. If you would have lived over there, you could have helped. Now you just can’t. That’s why we go back so much.” (woman, farmer)

The shift of change in family reaction does not have an influence on the intention or behaviour for migration, it might be a factor in the evaluation and the decision to stay or move back to the Netherlands. In research that focuses on this part of the (re)migration, family has to be included as a factor.

Under the characteristics, the family composition is mentioned. The sample group consists of one single, three couples without children, nine couples with two children and seven couples with three or more children (composition at the time of migration). As mentioned above, there is a difference in the family reaction of those with or without children; grandchildren are the main factor in this. Other factors concerning the children can be grouped under the ‘age of the children’; at what age of the children do people want to migrate. One of the migrants clearly states that they migrated before the children would be older. The children can therefore be seen as a key factor when it comes to the influence of the total family composition.

4.5 Expectations

Migration seems to be a process of evaluation of the current situation in the Netherlands and an ex ante evaluation of the situation and expectations in Canada. The expectations that came up in the interviews are grouped into three separate variables under expectations: social, physical and general.

4.5.1 Social expectations

Two main elements in the social expectations about Canada are ‘respect’ and ‘laidback’. These are interwoven with other physical and general factors but focus more on the personal aspects of the society. Both respect and the ‘laidback society’ were known to the migrant before they migrated, but are comprehensible further understood since the migration. As one of the experts states,

“People have been to Canada once or twice during their holiday. They saw the space, the rest and peace and the relaxed or laidback life people have.” (expert)

Some migrants in this research made a comparison between the situation they had in the Netherlands and the current situation in Canada, based on the society. One of the migrants explains:

“You know, in the Netherlands people are stressed to the bone. It starts in the morning, when you drive to work, with all that traffic. In Canada, there is enough space, the traffic is calm and that calms people, if you ask me. People are helpful and really friendly. When I’m back in the Netherlands, within an hour I’m in a fight over a parking space for example. Here, you don’t have that. People are friendly.” (man)

Another man mentions respect in schools:

“That’s the start. At school, in the first hour, your children are drilled with respect. With the national anthem; stand on your feet and sing. You live here; you enjoy the freedom so you respect the people and the country you live in.” (man)

The laidback society is, as four of the migrants state, the reason that people are friendly, have respect for each other and their belongings.

“The pace of life is much lower, people have time and that leads to a deep-rooted mutual respect.” (man)

The evaluation and the conclusion that respect and a laidback society can be found in Canada lead to an intention to migrate. This evaluation of the society in Canada is well interwoven with the physical expectations.

4.5.2 Physical expectations

The farmers in this research made a good combination of these social and physical expectations. One of them explained that he migrated because of the physical aspects like rules, regulations and possibilities, but most of all because of the society:

“You know, people in Canada respect you when they know you were raised on a farm. We lost that respect a long time ago in the Netherlands.” (man, farmer)

Four of the farmers (out of 11 in total) migrated mainly due to ‘farming’: they looked for a place where they could run a farm in a way they wanted it, within or without the Netherlands. Other factors were not always important:

“We wanted to be a farmer. That is the reason why we went. I always say to my husband, do what you want and what you like, not what you think you’re children would like. You never know if they want to continue on the farm. So, start with the things you like.” (woman, farmer)

This farming is a good example of the factor ‘space’ that came up. One expert explains:

“Literally space in Canada; space for development. But also space in the broadest way you can imagine. People give each other their space and full play. That led to a high tolerance.” (expert)

Farmers state that the Netherlands does not have enough space for farmers anymore and conclude that Canada is therefore a better place for them. Most of the non-farmers agree with the reasoning of space, but one of the migrants moderates this argument:

“What strikes me, are the small gardens people have; the houses are very close together. We thought, Canada is big, so the houses are big with a lot of space around. But when we started looking for a house, we thought, what a small garden.” (woman)

But Canada is, for the majority of the migrants in this research, a country that has space for living and development, which can be seen as a pulling factor for Canada. Especially in combination with the factor ‘nature’, this is mentioned in nine of the 20 interviews with migrants. People enjoy the nature they see in their daily life, but furthermore they enjoy the nature they see during the holidays in, for example, the Rocky Mountains. They love to camp, ride the trails in the mountains or even enjoy just the surrounding areas of their home town. These expectations of nature and space are very attractive for the Dutch.

Another attractive factor is ‘diploma’. This covers the rules and regulations about diplomas people need in Canada and the Netherlands. An expert explains the difference between the two countries:

“For example, you must have a professional diploma. If you want to start a restaurant there are a lot of requirements in the Netherlands. You need diploma’s

etcetera. In Canada, that is of less importance. They say if it is a bad restaurant, it will automatically close within two or three years.” (expert)

This leads to “striking percentage of people who start their own company in Canada” (expert). A third expert continues with these entrepreneurs:

“These are potential entrepreneurs in the Netherlands, a missed chance. But the politicians don’t listen to it. [...] If I look at the people who migrate, they have the mentality you need in the Netherlands. Those people work hard, they have the guts.” (expert)

Two of the migrants confirm these statements, by saying that they migrated because they wanted their own company, but did not have the required papers and diplomas to do so. Therefore, diplomas and papers can be seen as a facilitator for migration. On the other hand, diplomas are also restraints people see in the migration process. As one of the experts explains:

“It is difficult to work there, because there are only a few diplomas which are recognized in Canada. In my professional life, I only saw a few. Most of the time the people have to start a completely new education and start with a lower salary.” (expert)

For two of the migrants, both women, this is the main reason why they have not started working in Canada, whereas their husband moved because of the job. Diplomas as a factor could be grouped under constraint/facilitator. But due to the fact that this leads to entrepreneurs, this factor is grouped under expectations.

The physical expectations, like diplomas, farming, nature, space and possibilities work in the same way as the social expectations; it leads to the evaluation and conclusion that a better life can be found in Canada. This conclusion leads to the intention to migrate, because people want a better life.

4.5.3 General expectations

The social and physical expectations are of course included in the general (overall) expectation, but there is more. ‘Freedom’, which came up in eight of the 20 interviews with migrants, is a factor that is difficult to describe for most of the migrants. For some it is the freedom from family; not having parents or other relatives controlling their life. For others, it is just the freedom Canada has, compared to the Netherlands. For example meeting someone:

“I had to get used to that: they always said ‘see you in a sec’. I always thought, they’d be here in a minute, but no, they came after two days. It’s more free here.” (woman)

Freedom covers also the rules and regulations about farming, but the freedom in terms of rest, space and a lack of control by the government or neighbours can also be grouped under here. They state that in the Netherlands, the feeling of freedom is not comparable to Canada, but the migrants are incapable of providing a good example of this freedom.

“The freedom; just the country. When I stare out of the window, when I see the space. Alright, I can have the same in Friesland (red. Province) but that is different. It’s not the same. It’s the most... the freedom, the country, the farming. How could I make this clear... What keeps me here? The life I have now. (man, farmer)

The factor adventure is a similar one, which came up in six of the 20 interviews. The migrants describe themselves as adventurers; people who like to see something of the world:

“A different horizon, different culture and other habits. Another country, just everything different.” (man)

“Yes, adventurers. But also the faith it would go well.” (woman)

This furthermore comes up in the factor ‘challenge’. One of the experts even state that challenge is the main reason for Dutch people to migrate to Canada; to see if they are capable of surviving in a new country. Education and job are factors that influence this challenge:

“Well, the pressure was mainly based on challenge in the job. Just the challenge to see if Canada... In the Netherlands, if you get a diploma from college and not from university, you won’t be able to work your way up. This is possible in Canada.” (woman)

This challenge and this adventure results into possibilities in Canada. This is a combination of most of the preceding quotes, like ‘diploma’, ‘laidback’, ‘farming’ and ‘freedom’. It results into stories of people who started their own company (bed and breakfast, farm), started working in a job which could not be possible in the Netherlands or made a completely new start in their life.

Four of the migrants explicitly state that these possibilities are still there. For example, one of the farmers:

“Yes, a lot of possibilities. Here, still! It has become expensive, but there are still a lot of possibilities. Maybe not in central Alberta, but there are enough possibilities to be an entrepreneur. Also with little money, if you have perseverance, you can make it here.” (man, farmer)

These possibilities for the migrant itself are not always the main reason, as six of the migrants explain; children and their future can be a driving force. For some it is the space for the children to play, for others the society and security of Canada. But most of them tell about the possibilities they wanted for their children; to find a job, to have a ‘decent’ life in the world. One of the experts explains that the multicultural and busy society is a push factor for people, concerning their children.

Like stated in section 4.5.1 and 4.5.2, the expectations lead to an evaluation of the current situation in the Netherlands and creates a dream for the migrant. It is the dream of a better country (Canada) which has all the expectations they can think of. This dream feeds the intention of people to migrate:

“There is a large group of people who deliberately chose to migrate, although they have a good life over here. They go to Canada for a better future, a pattern of expectations and other possibilities.” (expert)

“It’s more like a dream. We have heard from people who said, I would have liked to do this, but I couldn’t. They would have loved it, but they couldn’t make the step. We lived our dream. (woman)

They see the positive elements in Canada which drives them in their decision-making process.

4.6 Constraint/facilitator

The same as in our daily life, the migrants might experience constraints in their process. The experts and migrants differ tremendously on this factor. They state that the immigration policy is a real constraint in the migration process.

“The biggest problem? Migration. Dealing with the Canadian immigration. Not being seen as a skilled worker and starting all over again.” (expert)

“I have a lot of people who need an employer for a temporary work permit. The bottleneck for a temporary work permit is the job offer people can get in Canada.” (expert)

The experts say that the rules, visa and official documents have a direct influence on the possibilities people have. Therefore, the constraints seem to have a direct influence on the behaviour. This problem is not visible in the interviews with the migrants. They agree with the experts that visa is a problem, but that it was not a real restraint in the migration process; it just costs time. It takes a lot of time to apply and receive the required visa to enter Canada. Four of the migrants explain that they received the visa only weeks (in two cases even days) before they would fly to the new country.

“We got the visa, and three days later we flew to Canada. It shouldn’t have come a week later.” (man, non-farmer)

Only a few other obstacles are mentioned in the interviews. One of the migrants explains that they simply did not have the money to buy a house or have the financial situation required for migration; they borrowed money from a friend to meet the demand of the Canadian government.

“You should be able to present a bank statement, which shows that you have at least 10 thousand dollar, or something like that, that you are able to survive the coming three months. We didn’t have that, so we borrowed money from a friend, migrated and send it back.” (woman)

Other small problems exist, like applying for social security and other governmental arrangements. But none of these problems would be a constraint in the migration decision process.

Again, only migrants with ‘success stories’ (in other words, people who successfully migrated) are interviewed. People, who could not migrate, for example due to the migration policy, are not interviewed. Therefore, the words of the experts are considered to have a higher value in this variable; it has to be concluded that constraints have a direct influence on the intention and the behaviour; migration policy (and other rules and regulations) and the financial situation can remove the intention and make it tougher or even impossible to migrate.

The experts and migrants agree with each other in the case of facilitators. A facilitator in this way is seen as a helping factor. The experts even function as a facilitator in the migration process, with helping the migrants and making it easier for them to migrate. The farmers in this research use mediators or other experts more than the non-farmers. They need help with selling their farm in the Netherlands and buying an existing farm in Canada. They also receive help with the Canadian Immigration. They state that, as a farmer, you need help with this process; otherwise it would cause a too high burden on your business.

“Of course we got help. You need it, a lot!” (man, farmer)

The non-farmers do not always seek help from mediators:

“All by ourselves; we did everything by ourselves. We even translated the forms, although this is not allowed. But we simply did not have the money.” (man, non-farmer)

“No, we did everything on our own. You could do everything by the mail.” (man, non-farmer)

The ones who did seek help with the mediators say that it was easy for them to cope with the rules and regulations and that they received the visa in a decent time, whereas the people who did not seek help had a little more trouble with this. The mediators and other experts are, in this way, a facilitator in the actual behaviour and not in the intention to it. The experts (or mediators) have also an influence on the intention, by providing information about the migration process which strengthens the migrant in its intention. This can be done by personal conversation with these migrants, giving information to entire groups on fairs or by special discussion groups. Three of the migrants state that they visited migration fairs to see if they would start with the migration decision-making process. This facilitator has therefore an influence on both the intention and actual behaviour.

One other facilitator is the pressure on the actual behaviour when migration visa almost expires. Two of the migrants state that they moved to Canada, because the visa they received weeks (or even months) before almost expired. They state they might have wanted to migrate at a later time, but were pushed to move. This variable seems to have an influence only on the behaviour; only in a minimal way, by speeding up the process in the final part.

The migrants (six out of 20) mention the comprehension the Canadian people have considering migrants. They state that because Canada is a migration country, they are used to accepting new residents and that they are interested in their stories:

“It is real, they do this very good. You can see that they are used to ‘spring students’ⁱⁱⁱ and people who come from different countries. The friends, the group she entered in the buddy system, are still her friends.” (woman)

“You are more Dutch over here. The funny part is, people are interested in your country of origin, very much. When they hear that you choose Canada, they welcome you here. ‘Welcome to Canada’.” (woman)

This makes it easier for people to integrate into the society, but does not seem to have an influence on the behaviour or even the intention. It is a factor that people mention afterwards and only has an influence on the evaluation (see section 4.9).

A factor that has much greater influence on the intention and behaviour is religion. Seven out of the 20 interviewed migrants mention this factor and explain in their stories the importance religion has in their decision-making process. One of the migrants explicitly explained why they chose Canada:

“We were reformed in the Netherlands and in France, they are Catholic. Not that we hate Catholics, but we thought about it. One friend told about the church over there [...] which influenced our decision. We made our decision based on the children, a Christian school and the church.” (man)

Some migrants explained that when they visited Canada so seek a place to live, they looked around for a church that they needed:

ⁱⁱⁱ Spring student are students who will start their Canadian education from February of March

“We looked for a church, what kind of church. Well, it was a Dutch one, so that was it.” (woman)

Not only does religion have an influence on the intention and the place to move, it furthermore has a direct influence on the behaviour:

“Well, the faith helped me with it. The praying, getting the answers and being led, that feeling. In way or the other... That feeling I had afterwards when I think that, it had to be...” (woman)

Due to the fact that religion has such a strong influence with some of the migrants on the behaviour, this factor has to be mentioned in the inductive model. Of course, not every migrant is religious, but for those who are religious, it has a very strong influence. They felt secure in the decision they made, because they state that it was decided by God. The amount of doubt most of the people might have, are less visible in these stories. This leads to the conclusion that religion is a very strong facilitator and removes doubt or constraints that exist, by stating that this decision was granted from above. Not only does religion strengthen people in the decision, it also creates a social circle, in which people have the opportunity to integrate. This makes it easier for people to adapt in Canada. One migrant explains that he received help and accommodation of people from his church.

Due to the fact that religion has such a strong influence, this factor is checked with other characteristics. The factor religion has its influence amongst all kinds of families (with or without children), all kinds of regions and locations in Canada (Edmonton, Lacombe, rural, urban) and the Netherlands (province of departure). The influence of religion is present in only seven families, but is spread out over the entire sample.

4.7 Knowledge/networks

De Jong (2000) stated in his research that networks do not have a significant influence on the migration decision-making process. In the interviews with the Dutch migrants, the networks were covered to see if this conclusion can be extracted to this research. One of the experts agrees with de Jong:

“Well, no, that is real limited. People have relatives over there, we even help brothers and sisters to move, but if that is the biggest share, I doubt it.” (expert)

On first hand, it looks like the migrants disagree with that, because 12 out of 20 explain they have relatives in Canada or America. When these relatives are further examined, it becomes clear that they are not closely related. Some tell about nieces or a great-aunt, but relatives like brothers, sisters, (grand)parents are not a visible factor.

“We had friend in Canada. Well... friends. Our neighbour, they one where we lived five years before.” (man, farmer)

Only one migrant states that he migrated because his brother-in-law already moved to Canada, which helped him to deal with the migration policies. Some even say that they met their relatives after the migration and that this did not play a role in the decision making. Also the friends, which are a part of the social network, do not have an influence on the migration. In some of the interviews (three) these friends in Canada are mentioned, but it is clear that they did not provide information or help. The conclusion of de Jong about networks, that it is not relevant, still holds in this research.

The migrants tell about knowledge they gathered by previous visits to the country. Previous work, like expatriate jobs, might have an influence on the intention. From four

interviews it becomes clear that this previous work (one visit for education, three for work) had an influence. People enjoyed the time they had and later on thought about coming back to Canada:

“He worked in Canada for a year, he came back, we got married and we got children... And then he said; I would like to go back. I said; go check if you find what you left over there. He did a couple of times and yes, he came back with a smile.” (woman)

This previous visit was, for this family, the first idea and had a huge influence on the intention. From the interviews with the migrants, it becomes clear that these previous visits have a big influence on the intention and behaviour. Most of these visits were holidays spent in Alberta, Ontario, Manitoba or British Colombia. One of the migrants explains:

“We were married for two years when we went to Canada for the holidays, with friends. We never thought of migration, no, we had the idea of taking over the farm. We went here, we spent our holidays and when we came back, we said to ourselves, well, I wouldn’t mind to run a farm over there.” (woman)

The first intention to migrate is most of the time not the reason for the holiday; it is the other way around. People spend their time in Canada, enjoyed the way of living and then see the negative aspects of their life in the Netherlands. For them, it becomes clear that Canada offers better conditions for them to live:

“In 1998 we have been here for a month. Yes, than you know what this country looks like.” (woman)

“Then we stayed here in Alberta for two weeks. After these two weeks we said to each other; do we have to go back?” (woman)

The holidays (and other visits, like work related) seem to have a huge influence on the intention to migrate.

4.8 Destination

As shown in Table 1-1 on page 2, Canada has a big share of emigrants moving from the Netherlands. But other countries have a similar or even higher share. The migrants in this research were asked about these other countries, especially the reason why they did not choose for them.

Farmers come up with European Union rules concerning agriculture and stock farming. They say that since the late 1980s and the 1990s, the European Union set rules that are hard to cope with. If this is the reason for farmers to migrate, they do not want to migrate to other parts of the European Union:

“To Europe, why then move at all?” (man, farmer)

“We looked at France and Denmark. Not that long, but these two countries were favourites by then. We didn’t look that long at these countries, because we met with the difficulties of the rules of the EU.” (woman, farmer)

One other argument, mentioned by a migrant, for not moving to Denmark is the restraint of leaving capital in Denmark. You can start a company over there, but if you decide, after a few years, that you want to move back, you need to leave the capital (house, money and other) in Denmark. Eastern Europe was not preferable for the migrants, due to

“social conditions” and “the remains of the communism” (woman, farmer)

The non-farmers have more problems with pointing out a reason why they did not migrate to other parts of the European Union. For some, England was a possibility, but other parts of Europe were not attractive:

“No, I liked the civilization you have over here, in Canada I thought it was more reliable compared to Eastern Europe.” (man, non-farmer)

The reasoning for Australia or New Zealand is more similar for farmers and non-farmers. They agree with one of the experts, who states:

“Canada is just a little closer compared to Australia. The latter gained popularity after the Olympic Games... Australia is 24 hours of travel, in 7 hours you are in Canada.” (expert)

This argument is confirmed by the migrants who state that Australia is just too far away. One migrant explains that his wife just returned from a visit to relatives in the Netherlands and argues that this would not be as easy when you would be in Australia. One other migrant states however that there is no difference between the two countries:

“Is does not make a difference if you move to Canada, Australia or New Zealand. It’s the same. [...] Phone, computer, everything is all right. Of course, there is distance. But in your heart there is not. When they call you, you’ll be up to date within in a minute.” (man)

The best argument that comes from the interviews is the previous visit. If they spend their holiday in Canada, they get their information from that country and they are attracted to their holiday area. At that point, they do not look at the other countries.

They do look at other provinces or areas to migrate to. If you will group the quotations made by the migrants about Alberta you come up with the keywords space, cheap and job opportunities:

Woman: “Well, Ontario seemed too crowded” Man: “And a minimal chance for a job. The Eastern part of Canada was not an option due to job opportunities. You only live in Saskatchewan or Manitoba when you are a hermit.” Woman: “And British Colombia we did not want because of the weather, the sea climate.” Man: “Then you say, what do we want, compared to the Netherlands? What do we win? So Alberta popped up.” (non-farmers)

This argument, comparison with the Netherlands, was raised in other interviews:

“This was more savage. Ontario looked like the Netherlands. It is levelled, has flowers and trees and all of that. And Alberta had more mountains and is rougher.” (man, farmer)

These people, who moved from the Netherlands, seek a place that is not comparable to the Netherlands, when you look at climate (*“sea climate”*) and environment. The farmers argue that provinces like Ontario and British Colombia are more crowded, have less area available for farming and are too expensive. The non-farmers also argue about the costs, especially the costs of living and house prices, which differ between the provinces. They like the space and nature they have in Alberta.

“Ontario was already crowded. Alberta wasn’t. The West coast is better, more mountains and better environment.” (woman, non-farmer)

The argumentation about other countries and provinces indicates that people tend to choose a country they visited and prefer Canada above Australia due to travel time.

4.9 Evaluation

The evaluation is, according to the Cambridge dictionary of American English (2008) defined as the noun of the verb “to judge or calculate the quality, importance, amount or value of something”. This can be done as an ex ante evaluation (beforehand) or as an ex post evaluation (afterwards). In this research, the factor evaluation is purely seen as an ex post evaluation and therefore does not have a direct influence on the intention or the behaviour, but is examined to further explain or describe some of the decisions people made and to create an advice for potential migrants in the Netherlands.

4.9.1 Integration

The migrants really stress the integration they experience in Canada. There is a difference in the amount of contact people have with the Dutch and Canadians. This, according to the migrants, is caused by the differences on both the social and physical area. One of the experts explains:

“They are mistaken about the life over here. First of all, everything is focussed on a car. Second, people work around the clock. They only have two weeks of holiday, when you work more than five years at that company you will get three weeks. It is not as easy as in the Netherlands.” (expert)

The most striking differences in the social field lie in birthday parties and openness and straightforwardness of the Canadian. First the birthday parties, they differ enormously between the two countries. Where in the Netherlands the birthday boy/girl pays for the food & drinks and receives presents, Canadian parties are most of the time provisioned by the visitors, who bring their own drinks and food. Furthermore, the Dutch like to celebrate their anniversary, whereas the Canadians do not always pay attention to this. This is the reason why the Dutch invite their Dutch friends:

“We have Canadian friends, but they do not like birthday parties. When it is your own birthday, you would like to see some people. So, you’ll invite your Dutch friends; because they will come. And the Canadian friends, maybe they do and maybe they don’t. Eventually, they do not show up, they have more freedom over here.” (woman)

This is, for at least five migrants, the main reason why they have so many Dutch friends in their inner circle. The openness and straightforwardness that exists in the Netherlands is missed by the Dutch in Alberta. Some migrants explain:

“A Canadian corks things up, you have to be careful with this. A little conservative, you call it. But that is something you learn quickly.” (man)

“In the matter of culture, you can talk easier with Dutch people. Not just the language, but also the customs, how they treat things. We have a different logic than the Canadians. For example, they buy everything on hire purchase.” (woman)

“The Dutch are really ‘outspoken’, they are straight from the shoulder. And on the job, you do not want to do that.” (woman)

This last argument, about the straightforwardness of the Dutch is an argument that is told by six of the migrants, farmers and non-farmers. They state that they are able to cope with this difference, but that this caused a few problems in the beginning. These

differences have an influence on the integration of the Dutch migrants in Alberta, as some of the migrants say. It was not hard for them to integrate, because

“A Canadian is of course from a Western culture. That makes it easier.” (man)

None of the migrants complain about the integration they experienced in the Canadian society. They do however still consider themselves Dutch, instead of Canadian. Only four state they are 100 per cent Canadian and no longer can be seen as Dutch people. The others state they are partly still Dutch, where they mention percentages ranging from 25 till 90 per cent, but some even explain that they are still 100 per cent Dutch. One migrant explains:

“You will stay a Dutchman. Some become Canadian, but that is still a little paper, which says that you are Canadian. You are and will always be Dutch, the place where you were born and bred.” (man)

One of the migrants even explains:

“You know what is funny? When you are here, you are more Dutch than you are in the Netherlands. I got a card from someone back home who wrote ‘I send you this card; you might miss the Netherlands because over there you are more a Dutchman than I am’. I thought; you know how it is.” (woman)

They see themselves as Dutchman in Canada. Some even doubt about the official papers, which will determine them as Canadians. They still live in Canada as ‘landed immigrants’ and therefore do not possess the Canadian nationality.

To conclude, there are differences between the Dutch and Canadians, especially in the social field. Quotations about birthday parties, openness or straightforwardness are numerous, but they are not causing troubles in the integration process. This process is easy for most of the migrants. Again, it has to be stated that this research listens to the success stories. It is quite conceivable that problems with integration might be a reason for people to move back to the Netherlands. Conclusions about this are hard to make, due to the lack of information, as shown in Table 3-3. This can be a good subject for further research.

4.9.2 Disappointments

Not every decision or act has only positive things. There are numerous disappointments one might experience in the decision-making process and the period afterwards. One of the biggest disappointments, or even the main reason why people go back, is homesickness, as explained by one of the experts:

“Yes, that is the main reason. Homesickness is the most important reason. It is the most important reason not to go or to move back. The family and the social life. [...] They really miss the social contacts and relatives. ‘Gezelligheid’ is a concept you hear a lot; in Canada you do not have gezelligheid, or an outdoor café, the cosiness you disparage in the Netherlands.” (experts)

The arguments of gezelligheid and family are confirmed by the migrants. They too miss the gezelligheid and state that this word cannot be translated into English.

“In the Netherlands you have that warm ‘gezelligheid’. You know, you cannot find it anywhere else.” (woman)

Translations like cosiness or sociability do not cover the mental state people have in the Netherlands. They like to drink some coffee with their friends or colleagues but, as one of the expert’s states;

“If you set a meeting with a Canadian: coffee break means coffee at the Tim Hortons. Not at one’s home. That is different.” (expert)

People miss the drinks in a bar, enjoying the parties they once had in the Netherlands and simply miss the things they do not have in Canada. One of that is also the family. It is a factor that they thought of before moving, but it remains a problem once they come to Canada;

“You think about it. Yes, until you are here and you experience it when someone is sick and you cannot go back. Or someone is getting married and I cannot be there. You will start noticing that when you moved here. Because when you talk about migrating, the advantages offset the disadvantages.” (woman)

Two migrants explained the situation they experienced with a death in the inner circle of their family. They say it is a real pity that, at that moment, you are not there for your family. Especially in the quotations made about the parents who get older. All the experts recognize the problems migrants have with the parents and the invalid period that comes up. One of the experts explains that reproaches arise because brothers, sisters and close relatives say that they would run away from this period, not taking care of the parents who start their invalid period. Migrants acknowledge this and feel sorry for the choice they made in the past. But, this is not a reason for them to move back:

“I always thought that it would be a reason. At this point, it is serious [...], but the children have their future over here and their friends. It sounds rude, but would [...] this (red.) be a reason why should move back?” (woman)

The migrants do not want to go back. Of course, this research looks at the people who are still there, whereas others might have fled back to the Netherlands, but the point is clearly made by some migrants:

“Just for holidays, not to live. No way!” (woman)

“I see myself more as a Dutchman over here than I would be in the Netherlands.” (woman)

“We have a feeling of freedom you could never feel in the Netherlands.” (man)

They all agree with each other that it would be possible for them to live there, financially but also the different way of living. One of them states that, as soon as he steps in a car in the Netherlands, he drives like a Dutchman. There are other minor disappointments, like the trouble of getting a drivers licence, other official papers or there is the complaint that the government should work faster. One additional and striking disappointment is the distance in Canada. The migrants love the space, nature and big country but hate the distances one has to drive, for example, to do their grocery shopping. One explains that she has to drive 30 kilometres to go to the other end of town. It is also not as easy, compared to the Netherlands, to visit each other:

“Yes, in the Netherlands it goes like, you come by in the weekend. That is different around here, due to the distances.” (expert)

Again, this is not a reason for the migrants to move back. They can cope with the disappointments they experience in Canada and still enjoy their daily life. This is visible in an evaluation the migrants made about the migration.

4.9.3 Evaluation

This section deals with the idea people have about Canada and the Netherlands after the migration process and an evaluation of the changes they noticed with themselves and the countries. Migrants look back at the Netherlands and come to two different conclusions: they like the country but they do not like the people. The country provides them nature, a green environment and gezelligheid around them:

“No, when I’m back in the Netherlands I enjoy it; because the Netherlands is a very nice country. You can ride a bike, you have nature around. You see more trees and flowers than you see here. And you can ride a bike from one village to the next one. In here you’ll take the car, it is more spread out over here.” (woman)

They all state that the Netherlands is a country they like to spend their holidays; see relatives and old friends. But the people itself, the people that live in the Netherlands, are judged in a very negative way:

“The people are cold. The whole social environment is cold.” (woman)

“It is busy, hurried and they don’t have time for each other. Too busy, too fast and hurried.” (woman)

“The negative side are the people; so materialistic. Like I need this, I need that or I need to work all day otherwise I cannot get this.” (woman)

Although people judge the Dutch people in a negative way, they do not hate the Netherlands. Some celebrate Queen’s day or other typical Dutch festivals, others just think of the Netherlands in a positive way. But none of them really hates the country they left.

The evaluation of the migration process is very positive. They think they made a good choice in migrating to Canada and see the positive elements they have in their life. Some of the migrants, especially the farmers, state that they now think that they should have done it sooner. It would then have become easier to start a farm in Alberta, because it would be cheaper and the migrants would be younger:

“Yes, afterwards we say, we should have done this 10 years ago. But that is afterwards. We always say, we eventually did make the choice.” (woman, farmer)

Most of the non-farmers state that they did it at the good time in their life. They state that the idea of migration had to mature, to make sure that both the husband and wife make a good and well-thought decision. Both the farmers and non-farmers state that they did the migration process itself in a good way; there is no difference between the people who did or did not receive help from experts. Again, only the success stories are covered, which can cause a massive bias in the evaluation.

The evaluation of the migration, which came up in the interviews, resulted into the noticing of two kinds of change: that of the migrant and that of Canada. The change of Canada is partly based on the fact that the migrants have a background in the Netherlands. They notice the changes and they are capable of labelling this change:

“It has become more open. Also faster, just like Europe. Over here, the people will get as stressed as they are in Europe. There is no doubt about that, it has to be. The same thing we left in the Netherlands.” (man)

Others say that Canada improved; it changed from a very conservative country to a more progressive country, although they still think of Canada as a (partly) conservative country. The changes they see in their personal life, concerning people, are mainly based on the changes of the children:

“She changed enormously. We saw the big difference in her. She is just a different person over here.” (woman)

The migrants do not talk about changes in their own personality or that of their spouses. This, according to the experts, is due to the fact that people do not change:

“If you are irritated about things over here, you will be irritated over there. You will stay the same person, whatever people say. People will get to know themselves.” (expert)

“For example, if they think the marriage is crap, they say; we get a child, this will make it better. But of course, it doesn’t. It doesn’t change. It is the same with migration. People will take themselves with them.” (expert)

The experts conclude that, if people tend to migrate because they think it would change them or make them happier, this is a very bad reason for migration. They state that these people have a very big chance to move back to the Netherlands. The fact that this research only covers the success stories might lead to the fact that none of these personality changes have come up in the interviews.

In the final part of the interviews, the migrants and experts were asked to give advice for future potential migrants. The main advice that came up in over 15 interviews is the amount of information the potential migrant has to gather before making the decision. The experts state that the migrants need to make lists of things they want in a new environment and see if Canada (or another country) can provide these expectations. It would then be wise to spend a couple of weeks in the new country to see, with the migration intention in their minds, if Canada has the things they want. One of the experts pays attention to the migration policies and advises people to read good information about the policy and furthermore, the diplomas that are recognized in Canada. The migrants mainly focus on the information you need in the migration process, but also advice people to adapt to the Canadian society:

“The mentality is different. You have to be open to that. Just accept it, even if you are not used to it. Adapt to it.” (man)

They advice people to stop thinking as a ‘Dutchy’; for example “I did it like this in the Netherlands, so I am going to do it over here”. According to the migrants, it does not work like that. The sooner you accept that things go different in Canada and you can adapt to that, the sooner you are integrated and enjoy your life in Canada.

To conclude the evaluation of the migration process, it is fair to state that the migrants are favourable about their decision to migrate. They would have done it in a similar way. They advice people to pay attention to the rules, regulations and official documents, but there is not real advice that would restraint a potential migrant to the Netherlands. Of course, some experienced disappointments with family or other aspects, but they can cope with it. All of the migrants state that he or she, at this point in time, do not want to go back to the Netherlands. They enjoy the life they have in the new country.

4.10 Farmers versus non-farmers

The quotes, as can be seen in sections 4.1 till 4.9, do not show age, place of residence or further characteristics of the respondents, to make it impossible for readers to pinpoint the quotes to a certain individual. However, it must be stated that some factors differ between the farmers and non-farmers.

The most profound differences can be seen in the factor satisfaction, where non-farmers tend to be more positive about their situation in the Netherlands compared to the farmers. They also focus more on the rules and regulations, where the non-farmers tend to focus on the social aspects. This difference is also present in the expectations about Canada; more focus on the rules and regulations. The family also reacts in a different way; farming families can understand better why people migrate, due to the fact that they are aware of the problems about European rules and regulations. In the evaluation process, farmers state they should have moved sooner, whereas the non-farmers do not come up with this idea.

The difference between the groups is also present in the help from mediators; farmers tend to seek more help compared to the non-farmers. This might be caused by the sale of their farm and more administration with the migration process and the acquiring of the required permissions of farming in Canada.

4.11 Inductive model

The transcripts of the interviews were examined in the program ATLAS.ti™, in which codes can be constructed that group quotations made by the migrants. The stories and quotes, which can be found in section 4.1 till 4.9, are grouped into 56 codes or factors, and further examined and grouped into 16 general concepts and 12 central concepts. The 56 codes and their frequency in the interviews are printed as Appendix B. The methodology makes it possible to examine the interviews in an inductive way and work up to a new constructed inductive model. Based on the variables and factors, a new (first) inductive model was created, as shown in Figure 4-1. This model shows all the codes and concepts used in the analysis, including the ones that can be left out of the final deductive model. In that way, it gives an overview of all the concepts and factors used in this research.

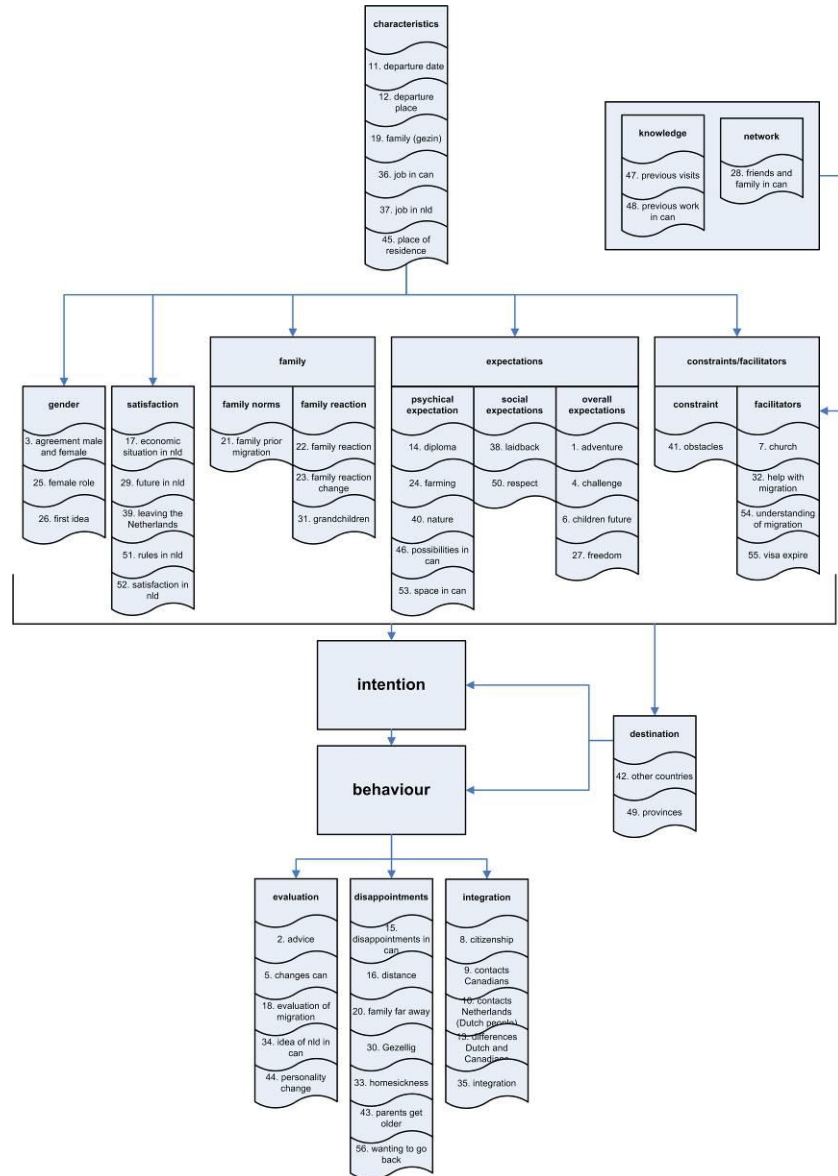


Figure 4-1 First inductive model

The links are based on a first examination of the factors, but not on a detailed description. Therefore, the links, factors and general model are further and more detailed examined below.

4.11.1 Gender

From the code ‘first idea’, it becomes clear that gender has a link to the intention, by creating an intention of migration by the partner. This is some kind of information or knowledge one receives from the partner. Due to the fact that the ‘first idea’ is some kind of intention, it cannot be linked to the behaviour. The ‘female role’ and ‘agreement male and female’ are variables that are more difficult to link to the intention. The agreement might be a restraint for people to migrate, for example if the partner does not fully agree to migrate and therefore has a link to the intention. The agreement does not have a clear link to the behaviour; because if there is no agreement amongst couples, the intention is not there and therefore there is no behaviour. The female role, as it came up in the interviews,

only focuses on the first idea and the process of the intention and does not focus on the female role in the process of behaviour (for example, who arranged the visa). Therefore a link to the behaviour cannot be made. It can be concluded that gender has a relation to the intention, maybe a small one, but not to the behaviour itself. It therefore has a role in the migration of Dutch migrants to Canada.

The conclusions for the gender are based on the interviews of the whole sample and not a subsample of men, women or couples; due to the fact that the interviews do not differ tremendously. Therefore, there do not have to be two inductive models, to explain either the male or the female situation. Gender has an influence on, for example, the evaluation and finds its roots in the agreement male and female, but the inductive model covers all of these aspects. Like stated above, people tend to place them self in a leading role, but the amount of interviews with men and women (seven versus nine) is similar for both sexes. The variable female role is mentioned only by the women, but the other variables are not different between the interviews.

4.11.2 Satisfaction

From the concept satisfaction it becomes clear that this satisfaction and mainly dissatisfaction is one of the reasons that influence the intention to migrate. Dissatisfaction leads to a new assessment of the situation in the Netherlands; they consider the Netherlands as a country with too many rules, too less space and a high crime rate. This reassessment leads to the first intention to migrate. This dissatisfaction does not seem to have a link to the behaviour, due to the fact that the migrants state they could deal with the negative points of the Netherlands. No quotes are made that state that the behaviour of migration was slowed down or accelerated by the negative points. It only strengthens them in the intention to migrate.

4.11.3 Family

None of the interviews show that prior family migration or family reactions had an influence on the migration behaviour or even the intention. On contrary, some migrants even explain that the family did not have an influence at all, because they made the decision without consulting the family. Family can be seen as a small restraint (covered in section 4.6) and is therefore grouped under constraints. In the inductive model, family does not have to be mentioned explicitly.

The experts state that the majority of the migrants migrate with their complete family, most of the time a couple with one or two children and this sample (with only one single) is a good example of that. Therefore, conclusions about differences between singles and families are hard to make and justify. Other differences in family composition, like the number of children, do not have an influence on the ideas, intentions or reasons for migration. That is why it can be concluded that the family composition does not have a direct link to the intention or the behaviour and the influence on the other factors is also minimal.

4.11.4 Expectations

It can be concluded that the expectations, like 'respect', 'freedom', 'space' and 'laidback' have a clear link to the intention. Of the factors mentioned, only 'diploma' seems to have a direct influence on the behaviour by constraining people who do not have the required diplomas to start in a job in Canada; they need to start a completely new education. This makes it tougher for people to make the decision and perform the behaviour: migration. All the other quotes about 'farming', 'nature', 'laidback', 'respect', 'adventure' and 'challenge' seem to have only an indirect influence on the migration behaviour; through the

intention. They see the factors and conclude that this cannot be found in the Netherlands. Therefore, the factor expectation, in the inductive model, only links to the intention and not to the behaviour itself.

4.11.5 Constraint/facilitator

It can be said that the constraints (migration policy, financial situation) and facilitators (help from experts, religion) combined have a direct influence on both the intention and behaviour. Especially the factor religion is a new variable, which has not come up in the work of de Jong. This factor is visible across the whole research group.

4.11.6 Knowledge/networks

The holiday (and other visits, like work related) has a big influence on the intention, but not on the behaviour itself. It only provides information for the beginning of the decision-making process. Therefore, it cannot be grouped under facilitators; which has a link to both the intention and the behaviour. It is linked to the expectancies people have about Canada; it provides the information on which the expectancies are (partly) based. Therefore, the factor knowledge is linked to the expectancies in the new inductive model.

4.11.7 Destination

The comparison of the countries of destination is done in the process of decision making, after the first intention has emerged. The information about the provinces and country are dealt with in section 4.7 about Knowledge/networks. Other negative or positive points of Canada in comparison to, for example Australia or Europe, are covered in the factors expectations (see section 4.5) and constraint/facilitator (see section 4.6). The factor 'destination' is covered in other factors and can therefore be removed from the new inductive model.

4.11.8 Farmers versus non-farmers

The differences between farmers and non-farmers raise the question if two separate models should be created for the groups. Although differences can be seen in four factors (satisfaction, family, physical expectations and facilitator (help from mediator)), the inductive model does not have to change between the groups. The factors still hold for each group, but some minor characteristics (or conceptualisations) of these factors differ. Farmers are more often dissatisfied with physical environment instead of the social and family reacts in a different way (but does not always say: 'please go'). Therefore, it must be concluded that the inductive model does not differ between the two groups, but the actual conceptualisation between the two groups can differ.

5. Conclusion

The conclusions, based on the interviews are split into two parts. First the conclusion about the preliminary inductive model (Figure 4-1) and the final inductive model (Figure 5-1) will be made. Further on, this new inductive model will be compared to the existing deductive model (Figure 2-4) to answer the main research questions.

5.1 Inductive model

Based on the conclusions in section 4.11, the inductive model (Figure 4-1) is modified into a new (second) inductive model. In this second inductive model, the codes used in ATLAS.ti™ are left out. Also, the concepts that did not have an influence (based on the interviews) are left out of this deductive model. This second deductive model therefore only shows the empirical concepts and factors.

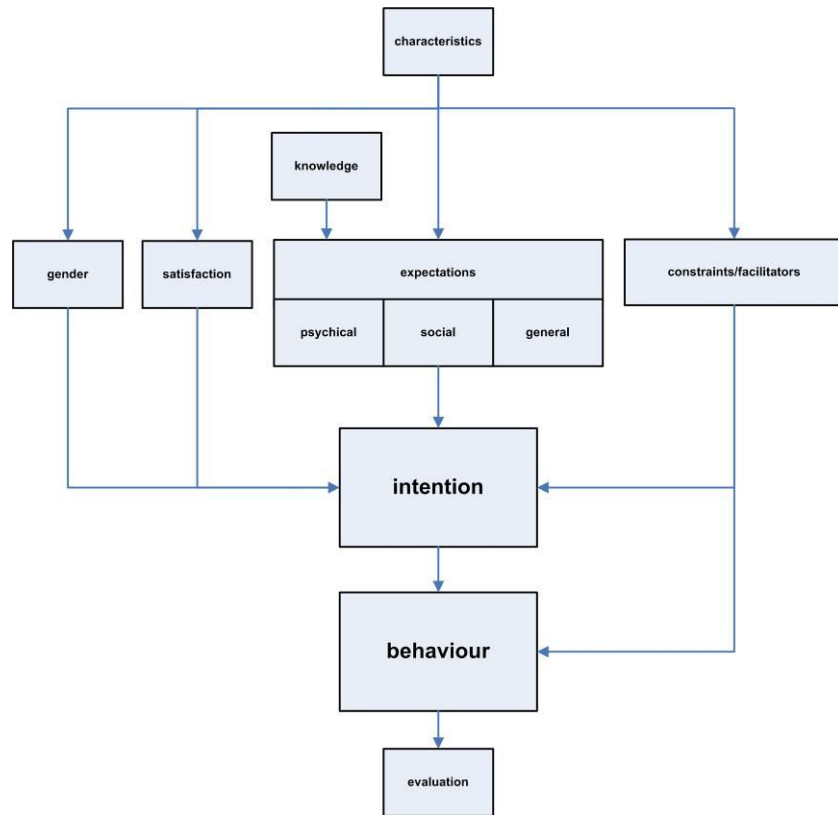


Figure 5-1 Second inductive model

When comparing the two inductive models, the first thing that can be noticed is the removal of the factors destination, network and family. The migrants and experts state that

other destinations do not influence the migration decision-making process. The effect of the other destinations is covered in other factors, as discussed in section 4.8. People only focus on a minimal amount of countries. Networks, especially friends and family, also do not have an influence. People do not look at prior migration in their family, they do not only move to countries where they have relatives or friends and do not look at the people they know in Canada. This is the same for the factor family, which beforehand might be a big factor, but is not one afterwards. The migrants explained that they made the choice and family did not have an influence on the intention or the behaviour.

The factor knowledge, which was linked to the facilitators, is now linked to the expectations one has. The previous visits in Canada are a facilitator, but create expectancies about a live in Canada. It therefore has a direct link to the physical, social and general expectations.

The biggest differences between the two inductive models can be found in the links between the factors and intention/behaviour. In the first inductive model, all the links are made to these intentions and behaviour, but from the interviews it becomes clear that most of the factors only have an indirect influence on the behaviour. Only the constraints, like migration policy, financial situation and in some way family and the facilitators, like help from experts and religion, have a direct influence on the behaviour. The blockade caused by the migration policy and the bad financial situation are factors that restrain people to the Netherlands. The help from experts and the faith from religion speed up the migration process and influence the migration behaviour in a direct way.

Gender, satisfaction and especially expectations, influence the behaviour. Gender can restrain people in the intention to migrate, for example when a partner does not agree with the ideas of the other. Satisfaction, in other words dissatisfaction, causes a negative view on the current situation in the Netherlands, after which the potential migrant examines his/her situation in the Netherlands and the possible situation in Canada. This intention is very much influenced by the expectations one has. The migrant expects things in a physical and social area and hopes for a better life in Canada. This combination of the factors, including the influence of the constraints/facilitators, leads to an intention to migrate, followed (not every time) by the behaviour itself.

Again, it has to be stated that this research does not look at the people who decided to move back or not to move at all. Therefore, there is a good possibility that other constraints, facilitators or other factors are missing.

5.2 Main conclusion

The new inductive model (Figure 5-1) is compared to the deductive conceptual model (Figure 2-4). This was done to make a comparison between the empirical data and theory:

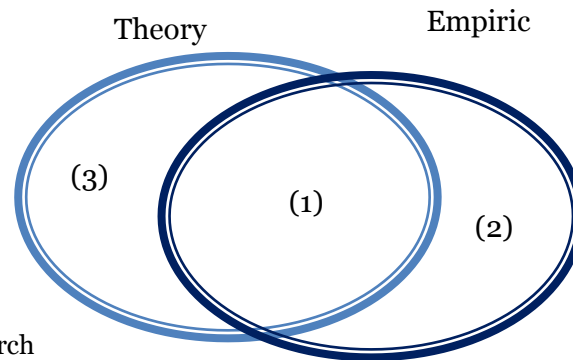


Figure 5-2 Goal of research

The first research question focuses on the attitudes, norms and perceived behavioural control, mentioned in the theory of planned behaviour and conceptualized in the model of de Jong and the conceptual model:

To what extent do the attitudes, norms and perceived behavioural control play a role in the migration of Dutch migrants to Canada?

This means a comparison between the deductive and inductive model and a check which theoretical factors do and do not come back in the empiric data. There are two factors mentioned in the model by de Jong which did not come back in the interviews; networks and family. The first factor, networks, was already considered to be a factor with no (or a minimal) influence on the migration decision making and this is confirmed by the migrants. The family, according to de Jong, has a big influence, whereas this research shows that family has only a minimal influence and is therefore grouped under the constraints. The factors network and family are therefore removed from the inductive model and fall into section '3' of Figure 5-2.

Four other factors are similar in the deductive and inductive model: gender, satisfaction, expectations and constraint/facilitator. In the model of de Jong, gender has a link to both the intention and the behaviour. The interviews show that gender has only a link to the intention. The interviews did not focus on the migration process (for example, who arranged the visa) and therefore no conclusion can be made for the link to the behaviour. It might be possible that there is a link between gender and the behaviour itself, but this has to be examined. Therefore, the inductive model shows only a link to the intention.

The conclusions for the satisfaction, expectations and constraints/facilitators are simple; the inductive model agrees with the deductive mode, shown as '1' in Figure 5-2. The three factors, which were set up by de Jong, can be found in the interviews. The links to the intention (and in the case of constraints/facilitators also the behaviour) are similar. The constraints/facilitators differ slightly in the research; the inductive model covers help with migration, religion, migration policy and financial situation whereas the conceptual model covers prior experience, money to move, immigration policy, labour contacts and discrimination. To conclude, money and policy are covered in both, discrimination is not mentioned in the interviews and prior experience is mentioned as knowledge and therefore linked to the expectations.

In his model, de Jong does not link the attitudes, norms and perceived behavioural control to the six factors. To answer the main question, the links in section 2.7 are used. The attitudes are linked to networks, family norms, gender roles, expectancies and satisfaction. The inductive model shows that only gender roles, expectancies and satisfaction have an influence. The norms are links to family and gender, by which only the

gender has an influence. The perceived behavioural control is linked to the networks and constraints/facilitators, by which the latter has the influence.

The second research question focuses on the factors, which are not covered in the theory, but that came up in the interviews:

To what extent play other factors, not indicated in the theory, a role in the migration of Dutch migrants to Canada?

The most profound factor, that is not covered in the theory, but that came up in the interviews is the influence of religion (part of '2' in Figure 5-2). This is grouped under the facilitators. It functions in two ways; it creates a social circle and it removes some constraints: gives people the trust to make a decision. Due to the fact that it is considered as a facilitator, it is linked to the perceived behavioural control. The attitudes and norms are not linked to the religion. All other factors are covered in the theory, or the slight differences in the factors are covered in the construction of the inductive model.

The goal of this research is to study to what extent the theories are an adequate representation of migration behaviour of a group of Dutch migrants to Canada. From the research questions it becomes clear that the majority of the reasons and factors are covered in the theory. Only religion has to be included and the networks and family (as a factor) have to be removed.

In the case of the Dutch people moving to Canada: they expect to have a better life. They seek social improvement with a more laidback life with more respect and a better future for their children, they seek physical improvement for their company, their job or space. They love the nature they see in Canada and like the adventure they undertake when migrating. It is not that people are not happy in the Netherlands or that their financial situation is bad, Canada is, in their eyes, just better. The most important one: it is a country with a more relaxed and laidback life, whereas the Netherlands, in the eyes of the migrants, is a country that has become too stressed, too busy and too fast.

The conclusion is simple: the Netherlands is a good country, but for some, Canada is just better!

6. Discussion

Although this research tries to reach its goal in the best way possible, there are always points that have to be taken into account. The first and most important one is the selectivity of the sample. The interviews were conducted amongst migrants who have a success story. They made the decision to migrate and did not move back. There are however two other groups; people who moved back or those who do not move at all. It is possible that other factors may arise when these groups are interviewed or existing factors do not exist in the stories of the other groups. It is wise, for further research, to include the stories from these other groups. Another example of selectivity is the problem of a non-random sample. This is mainly caused by the snowballing recruiting strategy used in the research. Although the factors and quotations are checked amongst the sample, there might be groups or individuals who have completely different ideas. This research does not tend to generalise for all migrants, but this might still be a factor. A third example of the non-random sample is the division in family structure: only one single was interviewed. According to the experts, the majority are families with one or two children, but other reasons and motivations might arise when other singles are interviewed.

The second point that should be taken into account covers the quotes and characteristics. Where quotes are mentioned in the research, there are only two characteristics mentioned; gender and farmer/non-farmer. This is done to meet the demands of the ethical issues. None of the quotes should be traceable back to the respondent. Due to the fact that the sample is small (20 migrants, three experts), no more information can be given.

However, in the actual analysis, the characteristics are used to compare different groups, like the age and place of residence in Canada and the Netherlands. This comparison led to the conclusion that the age, year of departure and place of residence did not have an influence; the factors are similar amongst the different groups. There are two characteristics which have an influence: the presence of children in the migrating family and the job (farmer or non-farmer). A further division in the non-farmer jobs led to the conclusion that in those groups the argumentation is similar. That is why the factors are sometimes divided into two groups: farmers/non-farmers and children/no children.

One of the ethical issues, mentioned in section 7.2, is mentioning unexpected outcomes. This research, in some parts, builds on the unexpected outcome: the factors that come up in the interviews and not in the theory. Therefore, it can be concluded that religion is the unexpected outcome.

7. Ethics

Ethical issues are present in our daily lives. The Cambridge Dictionary of American English (Cambridge University Press, 2008) defines ethics as “the study of what is morally right and what is not”. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary (2005) defines ethical as “conforming to the standards of conduct of a given profession or group”. There are certain things you do not ask your friends or neighbours and there are certain things you do not do, because you might harm the ones involved. Ethical issues are also always present in social research, although not always apparent. This chapter covers the ethical issues involved in the study. First, the issues concerning the participation of the research group are explained, followed by the ethical issues concerning the analysis and reporting and this chapter concludes with a discussion.

7.1 Participation

Babbie gives us four aspects the researcher must bear in mind when working with participants; ‘voluntary participation’, ‘no harm to participant’, ‘anonymity and confidentiality’ and ‘deception’ (Babbie, 2007).

Voluntary participation seems a very apparent and logical issue, but is a very important one: “no one should be forced to participate” (Babbie, 2007). The sample group in this study participated on a voluntary basis and all approved that the interview was recorded for transcribing afterwards. Participants were contacted by phone or email to arrange the meetings. None of the respondents was pushed or forced into the study.

Babbie states that “social research should never injure the people being studied, regardless of whether they volunteer for the study” (Babbie, 2007). Therefore, the interviews were conducted on a location of the interviewee’s choice, most of the time the interviewee’s house. Interviews were conducted privately, with only the researcher and respondent(s) present. One interview was conducted in public space; therefore some personal and confidential questions were not covered, although the interview was done in Dutch. Interviews were conducted at a time set by the respondent, to make sure that loss of time did not lead to a loss of money or other harmful situations.

Anonymity and confidentiality cover the guarantee that information extracted from the interviews cannot be traced back to the respondent. Anonymity is defined as the “identity of those taking part not being known outside the research team” (Ritchie and Lewis, 2003). For example, this can be achieved by doing a mail survey. However, “a typical interview survey respondent can never be considered anonymous, because an interviewer collects the information from an identifiable respondent” (Babbie, 2007). Therefore, the data from the interviews in this study are not anonymous.

Confidentiality means “avoiding the attribution of comments, in reports or presentations, to identified participants” (Ritchie and Lewis, 2003). This means that the researcher can identify the person’s answers and response, but promises not to publish these responses combined with the person’s information. The data extracted in this study is confidential. None of the respondents’ particulars were published or shared with others.

Recorded interviews were transcribed solely by the interviewer/researcher and done privately.

The fourth ethical issue concerning the participants covers 'deception'. "Lying about research purposes is common in laboratory experiments" (Babbie, 2007) and can sometimes be necessary in social research. For example, if the researcher concludes that information needed for research cannot be extracted if the researcher and goals are explained beforehand. In this study, deception is not necessary and therefore not ethical. The goals were explained before the interviews started and respondents were debriefed afterwards. This was done to learn about the respondents experiences of participation and to further explain the research to the participant.

Combining the four ethical issues for participation, it can be concluded that this study complies with the professional code of ethics concerning the respondents.

7.2 Analysis and reporting

When data is collected from respondents, other ethical issues concerning the analysis and reporting arise. Most of these issues concern the obligation researchers have to the scientific community. Every study, conducted in social research, has technical limitations and failures. Researchers have "an obligation to make such shortcomings known to their readers – even if admitting qualifications and mistakes makes them feel foolish"(Babbie, 2007). To comply with this ethical point, there are several discussions throughout this study.

On the other hand, some outcomes and conclusions do not arise due to good planning or well constructed research. They arise unexpectedly, although it might seem logical for readers. When these unexpected outcomes arise, this must be explained as such and not as a "carefully preplanned analytical strategy when that is not the case" (Babbie, 2007). Researchers should tell the truth about findings instead of deceiving the readers. The unexpected outcomes of this research are covered in chapter 6.

7.3 Discussion

For most of the readers, it seems logical to comply with the ethical issues in research. However, a researcher must always be aware that all the activities he or she plans or executes, must comply with these ethics. During the fieldwork in Alberta and preparation in Alberta and Groningen, these ethical issues were of great influence.

However, at a certain time during the analysis of the data, one other researcher of the University of Groningen was given the opportunity to read and check one interview. This was done to check if the coding and analysis were done in a correct way. Unfortunately, the name of the respondent was visible on the transcript. Due to the fact that this was later discussed with the researcher and that she is well aware of the ethical issues above, it can be stated that the rules of ethics were not broken.

Combining the ethical issues of participation, analysis and reporting, it can be concluded that this study complies with the professional code of ethics.

8. Literature

- Ajzen, I. (2006), 'Theory of Planned Behavior Diagram', Internet: <http://people.umass.edu/ajzen/>, Last visited 05-09-2008.
- Babbie, E. R. (2007), *The practice of social research*, Thomson Wadsworth: Belmont, CA.
- Boyle, P. J., K. Halfacree and V. Robinson (1998), *Exploring contemporary migration*, Longman: Harlow.
- Cambridge University Press (2008), *Cambridge dictionary of American English*, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge ; New York.
- de Jong, G. F. (2000), 'Expectations, gender, and norms in migration decision-making', *Population Studies-a Journal of Demography*, 54 (3), 307-19.
- de Jong, G. F. and R. W. Gardner (1981), *Migration decision making : multidisciplinary approaches to microlevel studies in developed and developing countries*, Pergamon Press: New York.
- de Jong, G. F., K. Richter and P. Isarabhakdi (1996), 'Gender, values, and intentions to move in rural Thailand', *International Migration Review*, 30 (3), 748-70.
- Denscombe, M. (1998), *The good research guide : for small-scale social research projects*, Open University Press: Buckingham (England) ; Philadelphia, Pa.
- Europees Parlement Bureau Nederland (2009), 'Europa NU', Internet: <http://www.europa-nu.nl/>, Last visited 29-01-2009.
- Faist, T. (1997), 'The crucial meso-level', in T. Hammer, et al. (eds.), *International Migration, Immobility and Development* (Oxford: Berg Press).
- Fischer, P. A., R. Martin and T. Straubhaar (1997), 'Should I stay or should I go', in T. Hammer, et al. (eds.), *International Migration, Immobility and Development* (Oxford: Berg Press), 88.
- Fishbein, M. and I. Ajzen (1975), *Belief, attitude, intention, and behavior : an introduction to theory and research*, Addison-Wesley Pub. Co.: Reading, Mass.
- Fuller, T. D., P. Lightfoot and P. Kamnuansilpa (1986), 'Mobility Plans and Mobility Behavior - Convergences and Divergences in Thailand', *Population and Environment*, 8 (1-2), 15-40.
- Glaser, B. G. and A. L. Strauss (1967), *The discovery of grounded theory; strategies for qualitative research*, Aldine Pub. Co.: Chicago, .
- Hammar, T. (1997), *International migration, immobility, and development : multidisciplinary perspectives*, Berg: Oxford ; New York.
- Heath, H. and S. Cowley (2004), 'Developing a grounded theory approach: a comparison of Glaser and Strauss', *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, 41 (2), 141-50.
- International Monetary Fund (2008), *World Economic Outlook Database-October 2008*, IMF: Washington, D.C.
- Keddy, B., S. L. Sims and P. N. Stern (1996), 'Grounded theory as feminist research methodology', *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 23 (3), 448-53.
- Lee, E. S. (1966), 'Theory of Migration', *Demography*, 3 (1), 47-57.
- Massey, D. S. (1990), 'Social-Structure, Household Strategies, and the Cumulative Causation of Migration', *Population Index*, 56 (1), 3-26.

- Massey, D. S., J. Arango, G. Hugo, A. Kouaouci, A. Pellegrino and J. E. Taylor (1993), 'Theories of International Migration - a Review and Appraisal', *Population and Development Review*, 19 (3), 431-66.
- Merriam-Webster Inc. (2005), *The Merriam-Webster dictionary*, Merriam-Webster: Springfield, Mass.
- OECD (2008), 'Comparison of wage levels', Internet: <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/33/28/34545117.pdf>, Last visited 10-12-2008.
- Overseas Emigration (2009), '10 Reasons people emigrate to Canada', Internet: <http://www.overseas-emigration.co.uk/>, Last visited 31-05-2009.
- Ritchie, J. and J. Lewis (2003), *Qualitative research practice : a guide for social science students and researchers*, Sage Publications: London ; Thousand Oaks, Calif.
- Rosenblatt Associates (2009), 'Top 10 Reasons to Come to Canada ', Internet: <http://www.immigrate.net/law/en/Canada/10ReasonsToCanada.asp>, Last visited 31-05-2009.
- Sinnema, D. W. (2005), *The first Dutch settlement in Alberta : letters from the pioneer years, 1903-14*, University of Calgary Press: Calgary.
- Statistics Canada (2008), *Quarterly Demographic Estimates: April to June 2008*: Ottawa, Ontario.
- Statistics Netherlands (2008), 'Statline', Internet: <http://statline.cbs.nl>, Last visited 10-12-2008.
- Strauss, A. L. (1987), *Qualitative analysis for social scientists*, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge [Cambridgeshire] ; New York.
- Strauss, A. L. and J. M. Corbin (1998), *Basics of qualitative research : techniques and procedures for developing grounded theory*, Sage Publications: Thousand Oaks.
- ter Bekke, S., H. P. Dalen, van and K. Henkens (2005), 'Emigratie van Nederlanders: Geprikkeld door bevolkingsdruk', *Demos*, 21 (4), 25-28.
- van Dalen, H., K. Henkens and H. Nicolaas (2008), 'Emigratie: de spiegel van Hollands ongenoegen', *Bevolkingstrends*, 56 (1), 32-38.

Appendix A

'Interview Guide'

Background

1. When did you migrate?
2. From where did you migrate? (rural / urban)
3. Where did you migrate to?
4. With whom did you migrate?

Decision-making process

5. How were your conditions in the Netherlands? (trigger: in time frame, economic/social, work, family, house, social environment)
6. How did you feel about your future in the Netherlands?
7. How did you feel about (a future in) Canada?
8. What did you think Canada could offer you? (probe: positive things or drawbacks)
9. How did you feel about leaving the Netherlands?
10. Who came up with the idea?
11. Have family members or friends migrated before you?
12. Did you have friend or family in Canada?
13. Did you want to leave the Netherlands or go to Canada (push or pull)?
14. Did you consider other countries? Which?
15. How did family and friends react?

Migration process

16. Did you migrate on your own or with help of an agency / mediator?
17. Were there any obstacles migrating to Canada? (probe: costs (financial and social), rules, regulations)
18. How (well) did you adjust / integrate in the Canadian Society? (trigger: Dutch Club)
19. What was, when you recall, the most important reason?

Reassessment

20. How does family feel now about you living in Canada?
21. What do you think about the Netherlands now? (probe: identify as Dutchmen, economic / social climate)
22. Were the ideas about Canada correct? (why is / isn't)
23. Would you do it again / in another way?
24. What advice would you give to future migrants?

Appendix B

Table of codes

	experts			migrants																	TOTAL:				
	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		18	19	20	
adventure			2										1	2		1		1	3						10
advice	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2		1	3	1	2		28
agreement male and female								1			2	1				1		2							7
challenge	1				1	1	1															2		1	8
changes can											1	1									1		2	1	6
children future	2				1							1	1	1			4			2			2	14	
church							2	1		1	2			2					2					1	11
citizenship				1	1	2	1	1	1		2	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	25
contacts canadians			1		1		1	1	1			1	1		1		1		1					2	12
contacts netherlands (dutch people)	1	1		1	1	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	1		1		1	2	1	1	2		24	
departuredate				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
departureplace			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2		1	2	1	1	1	1	22
differences dutch and canadians			1		2	1	1				2	2	1		3	1	1	2	1	2		2		1	23
diploma		1	2						1		1		1	1			1	1						9	
disappointments in can	1	2	2	1	1	2	1				2	3	3		2	3		1	1				1	26	
distance		1			1					1								1		1	1			6	
economic situation in nld				2		1	1	1		3		1	1		1			2		1			1	15	
evaluation of migration				3	3	2	2	1	1	3	2	1	3	3		2	3	2	2	1	3	2	4	43	
family (gezin)	2	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	36	
family far away							1	2	1	1			2	1		1	1	2				1	1	14	
family prior migration	1			1	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	2		1		1	1			2	1	1		21	
family reaction	2	2	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	33
family reaction change	2		2	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1		1	1	1	1	20	
farming			1			1	3	1						1										7	
female role	1	2					1											1			1			6	
first idea	1	1	1	1	2			1	1	1	1	1				1				1	1		1	15	
freedom					1		1	1	3			1		2				2	1					12	
friends and family in can	1	1	1	2	1	2				1	2	1	2		1	1					1	1		19	
future in nld			1		2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1		1	1	2	1	1	3	2		2	22	
Gezellig		1	1				1	1		1	1							1			1		1	9	
grandchildren	1			1		1		2	1					1		1								8	
help with migration	2			1	1	1	1	2	2		1	2	1	3	1	1		2	1	1	1	1	1	26	
homesickness		1	2		1	1		1			1			1	1			2				1	2	14	
idea of nld in can			1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	3	3	1	1		1	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	29	
integration	1						1		2	1					1		1							7	
job in can	2	1			1	1		1	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	2	2	1	3	2	2		1	30	
job in nld	1				2	1		1	1	2	2	1	3	2	1	1		2	1		2	2	1	26	
laidback	1	1			1						1				1	2			1		1			9	
leaving the netherlands				1		1		1	1	1	1	1				1		1				1	1	12	
nature		1	2	1		1						2	1	1	1			2		2				14	
obstacles	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	1		1	1			1	1	1		1		1		1	1	20	
other countries	2	1		2	1	1	1	3	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	1		1	1		1	1	28	
parents get older	1	1	1				1							1		2								7	
personality change		2				1	1						2											6	
place of residence	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	1		1	2	1	2	2			2	27	
possibilities in can		2	2	1			3	4	1	2	3	1		1		1	2		2	2	3			30	
previous visits				1			1		2		1	1	1		1	2		1	1	1	1	1	1	16	
previous work in can								2					1			1	1							5	
provinces					1			2	1	1		1	1						2			1	2	12	
respect				1					2				2			1		1	2	1	2	1	2	15	
rules in nld		2	1	4	1	2	4	2	2	4	2			2									1	2	29
satisfaction in nld	2		1		2	2		1	1		1	2	1			1		1				1	1	17	
space in can	2		1	2	2	2		2		1		2	1			1			3			3	1	23	
understanding of migration							1					1	1									2	2	7	
visa expire									1									1						2	
wanting to go back	1		2	1	1	1	2	2	3	1	1	2		1	1	1	2	1		2	3	1		29	
TOTAL:	35	29	33	43	39	41	45	57	41	51	52	49	44	47	27	45	35	47	32	42	49	42	46	971	