Dynamics of power in Ivujivik (Nunavik) : the role of the angajuk (the oldest one)

This presentation will explore some elements of the political transformations which occurred in a Nunavik community during the XXth century. We will focus on one particular aspect: the role played by the angajuk (the oldest one) in different kinds of context (family, political life, hunting activities…). The age of a person was a structuring aspect of power relations in Inuit groups before sedentarization. It can be observed in the way people helped each other in work activities. It was the major way to transmit knowledge. We can see it still at work today in the context of the school, the coop or municipal life. These observations will give us the occasion to question the categories of age groupings and particularly the one of inuturait (elders).

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