

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL & HEALTH SCIENCES ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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VIOLENCE, INJURY AND PEACE RESEARCH UNIT
RESEARCH UNIT FOR MEN AND MASCULINITIES
TRANSDISCIPLINARY AFRICAN PSYCHOLOGIES

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INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL & HEALTH SCIENCES [ISHS]

The vision, mission, principles and objectives of the **Institute for Social and Health Sciences** are based on the recognition of dynamic priorities, partnerships and location in Unisa, an African university in the service of humanity.

VISION

A global Africa-centred institute of excellence in the social and health sciences



MISSION

Committing science and compassion in the service of community



OBJECTIVES

Engage in transdisciplinary research in the social and health sciences



Support the accelerated development of next-generation researchers



Champion research-orientated community-engaged interventions



Produce Africa-centred knowledge in the service of science-society dialogue



Foster critical scholarship to strengthen compassionate communities



Grow collaborations that contribute to the global knowledge economy



ISHS

THE ISHS FINDS EXPRESSION THROUGH:



**VIOLENCE, INJURY
& PEACE RESEARCH
UNIT**

VIPRU



**TRANSDISCIPLINARY
AFRICAN PSYCHOLOGIES
PROGRAMME**

TAP



**RESEARCH UNIT
ON MEN &
MASCULINITIES**

RUMM

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Ashley van Niekerk



The Institute for Social and Health Sciences (ISHS) in 2017 consolidated its programmatic structure and activities, articulated through three flagships: Transdisciplinary African Psychologies, the Research Unit on Men and Masculinities, and the Violence, Injury and Peace Research Unit (VIPRU). The latter comprises a long-standing partnership with the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) and has again proven a productive and creative intellectual and research space. The ISHS continued to deepen its critical approach to the study of psychology and social transformation and, through VIPRU, the transdisciplinary application of public health and social science theoretical traditions and methodologies to injury prevention, safety and peace promotion.

This Annual Report demonstrates the ongoing strengthening of the ISHS's theoretical platforms, especially through the Transdisciplinary African Psychologies Programme Colloquium Series; its community engaged partnerships, with key partners including the City of Johannesburg, Western Cape Department of Local Government, Mpumalanga Forensic Pathology Services, and long-standing community relationships in Johannesburg South and in Strand on the outskirts of Cape Town; an innovative research portfolio, including research on

gender norms and masculinities in the home, community safety mobilisation through the Thembelihle and Erijaville Safety Demonstration Sites, and burn trauma recovery and social reintegration; and ISHS support of next generation researchers, with 11 staff registered for PhD study. This year we celebrated a number of noteworthy publications. These included "Enlarging the scope of peace psychology: African and world-regional contributions" and "Emancipatory and participatory methodology in peace, critical, and community psychology", both edited by Mohamed Seedat, Shahnaaz Suffla and Daniel Christie, and published by Springer International Publishing.

The former reflects on peace engagement and trans-disciplinary understandings of the role of psychology in peace, conflict, and violence, while the latter grapples with the "ambiguities, complexities and messiness" of participatory research approaches. Mohamed Seedat and Shahnaaz Suffla also edited a Special Issue of the South African Journal of Psychology titled "Liberatory and critical voices in decolonising community psychology" and focusing on insurgent knowledges and praxes. ISHS and VIPRU staff received a number of awards, including Naiema Taliep who received a C2 Rating from the NRF, and Ashley van Niekerk who was awarded a Silver Medal by the SAMRC for his research contributions.

The ISHS team has continued to serve on respected national and international journal editorial boards, review committees, international conference committees, and ethics committees as part of the Institute's ongoing academic citizenship commitments. Notably, Kopano Ratele joined the Ministerial Oversight Committee on Transformation in the South African Public Universities. We also furthered our internationalisation work and hosted a number of research fellows, including Professors Shrikant Bangdiwala (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and McMaster University) and Jeff Hearn (University of Huddersfield and Hanken School of Economics). Finally, in 2017 the Institute constituted an extended leadership structure, which has enhanced its collective approach to enabling the ISHS's strategic vision.

In 2018, the ISHS's agenda will include the generation of grant funding for its flagship research, further implementation of its research projects, ongoing support and supervision to postgraduate students, and preparations for a five-year review. Onwards to 2018!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ashley van Niekerk". The script is fluid and cursive.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
SAMRC-Unisa Violence, Injury and Peace Research Unit

PROFESSOR EXTRAORDINARIUS
Institute for Social & Health Sciences, Unisa

VIOLENCE, INJURY & PEACE RESEARCH UNIT

VIPRU

Despite South Africa's remarkable political transformation, the country has continued to experience staggering levels of morbidity and mortality arising from violence and injury. Annually, as many as 3.5 million people seek healthcare for nonfatal injuries, of which half are due to violence. Over the course of a lifetime, up to 75% of South Africans experience at least one traumatic event, an astounding cumulative burden and drain on the country's human resources.

The extent of disability and suffering as a result of injuries is extensive. For example, for every fatal motor vehicle accident, four crash survivors suffer from brain injuries. Many others are hospitalised for less severe but debilitating injuries. Injuries exacerbate health disparities and worsen health outcomes. Violent injury in particular, is a big risk factor for the country's most

prevalent and serious health problems, including HIV and sexually transmitted infections, substance misuse, and common mental disorders such as post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and suicidality. At a social level, the threat and occurrence of violence, and exposure to harmful road, environmental and recreational spaces, undermine social cohesion.

VIPRU was initiated in 2001 as the Crime, Violence and Injury Lead Programme (CVI), a partnership between the ISHS and the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC). The original research mandate of the unit was to improve the population's health status, safety and quality of life through public health-orientated research aimed at preventing death, disability and suffering arising from crime, violence and unintentional incidence of injury. The CVI was rebranded as the

SAPPRU in 2010, and as VIPRU in 2014. VIPRU has committed significant energies to data-driven prevention initiatives and transferable solutions for priority injury and violence issues, including safety and peace promotion.

The current cycle has seen a continuation of its public health, critically-orientated research, the consolidation of transdisciplinary safety and peace promotion research interests, and the centring of its programmes around the prevention of violence and priority injuries.

The VIPRU research groups are organised around three research questions, with a range of key projects aligned to key research areas (see below). In addition, a cross-cutting strand focuses on information dissemination, capacity building, outreach and public awareness.

VIPRU's key research areas:



METHODOLOGICAL

and technological innovations required to support prevention



DETERMINENT-BASED

interventions that work to prevent violence and injury



INSTITUTIONAL

social and policy environments supportive of science-based prevention

VIPRU'S KEY OBJECTIVES ARE TO:

A

Conduct transdisciplinary violence, injury and peace research

B

Contribute to contextually-sensitive prevention sciences

C

Cultivate innovations and technologies in support of research and knowledge applications

D

Build safety and peace promotion, and prevention expertise

E

Maintain demonstration initiatives to support research, capacitation and knowledge brokerage

F

Encourage the use of research to champion prevention and promotive policy and practice

JOHANNESBURG INJURY AND SAFETY PROMOTION OBSERVATORY [JISPO]

A collaboration between the Joburg City Safety Programme (JISPO) in the City of Johannesburg Public Safety Department and the University of South Africa's Institute for Social and Health Sciences.

JISPO was developed in response to the City's long-term goals as articulated in the Joburg 2040 Growth and Development Strategy (GDS) of "creating a safe, liveable, and responsive city for all its citizens" and the short-term City goals for urban safety. Through JISPO the city will be able to track alignment of its outputs and initiatives with overall

strategic goals and ensure health and well-being for all its citizens.

The primary activities for 2017 focused on the analysis of the Johannesburg Metropolitan Police Department (JMPD) dataset on traffic incidents and the development of a preliminary report. The report aimed to illustrate how the observatory can be used to provide an epidemiology of traffic incidents to inform city responses and to provide recommendations for its data collection. The results of the preliminary report was presented at the EThekweni-Academic Research

Symposium. The project plans for 2018 include various stakeholder presentations (to both internal CoJ stakeholders and political heads), strengthening of the city observatory by obtaining additional databases and analyses of such additional data.



The objectives of JISPO are:



IMPROVE

the safety-related internal decision-making processes of CoJ, by strengthening its data collection, management, analysis and uptake systems



PROVIDE

an evidence base for CoJ prevention activities



SUPPORT

CoJ to prioritise and mobilise resources to address key issues



ENHANCE

governance by maximising inter-institutional cooperation, information-sharing, analysis, and policy development initiatives



IMPROVE

a comprehensive profile of public safety by including various possible data sources



ENCOURAGE

the development of indices over time

FROM SCRATCHMAPS TO BUILDING BRIDGES

The **SCRATCHMAPS** (Spiritual Capacity and Religious Assets for Transforming Community Health by Mobilising Males for Peace and Safety) project which embraced a community-based participatory action research approach to mobilise spiritual capacities and religious assets to promote positive masculinities, safety, health and peace came to the end in 2016. It has evolved / transitioned / morphed into the Building Bridges Mentoring Program (**BBMP**).

BBMP is a dynamic gender-based intervention that promotes equitable relationships by applying transformational processes to

enhance agency and promote responsible and active citizenship.

We have developed manual a resource for facilitators working with men and boys, as well as women and girls. The manual is intended to foster leadership and mentoring skills to navigate the challenges of violence by promoting generative forms of masculinity and femininity, but also safety and peace in a community.

BBMP aims to strengthen individuals, build positive relationships, invest in caring and supportive families and communities through mentoring and capacity building,

and mobilizing community assets, including spiritual and religious assets that foster community connectedness, address community challenges, activate leadership, agency, activism and social change.

The primary focus of the BBMP in 2017 was on knowledge brokerage and dissemination, finalising the Building Bridges Manual; networking and generating funds for community engaged research and scholarship, community building and sustainability.

“

The secret to CHANGE is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.

”

“

Burns are a significant and often catastrophic source of health, social and economic losses in South Africa and the Global South.

”

BURN RISK PREVENTION & RECOVERY STUDIES

In South Africa, burns have been a persisting threat especially to residents in impoverished and informal settlements.

The Burn Risk, Prevention and Recovery Studies encompassed studies directed at:

Safe and Sustainable Energy Technologies

Domestic Paraffin Appliance Use and Safety

Psychosocial Recovery of Paediatric Burn Victims

Innovative Methodologies to Recruit and Engage Paediatric Burn Research Participants

SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

Energy poverty, that is, the lack of access to modern energy, is a key manifestation of structural violence and impoverishment in poor communities. About 2 million people still lack access to reliable modern energy. These households survive energy-wise on raw solid fuels (e.g. firewood and coal) or flammable hydrocarbons such as paraffin, which are burnt in inefficient stoves and consequently face risks of health impairment from household air pollution, conflagrations and burn injuries.

The Safe and Sustainable Energy Project (SSEP) is focused on the development, study and dissemination of safe and clean energy options that can meet the energy services of poor households on a sustainable basis. The proposed technologies are solar power (for electrical services), biogas (mainly for cooking and heating), and cool coatings (for passive cooling).

In 2017, the alternative energy technologies were setup at a demonstration site and hosted members of local communities for knowledge sharing. The 2017 objectives were to develop the research strategy and design, independently assess the performance and suitability of the proposed technologies, and to initiate a community engagement strategy in preparation of the re-search.

David Kimemia and Ashley Van Niekerk published “Cookstove options for safety and health: Comparative analysis of technological and usability attributes” in Energy Policy, and with Mohamed Seedat presented and published “Community Energization: Demonstration and Implementation of Safe, Clean, and Sustainable Energy” at the Domestic Use of Energy Conference in Cape Town.

DOMESTIC PARAFFIN USE AND SAFETY

The lack of coherent information on the complex problem of energy poverty and burns has contributed to



uncoordinated and often disjointed official responses to burn prevention in South Africa. The Domestic Paraffin Appliance Use and Safety study emphasises the role of caregiver characteristics in the risk exposure of children.

The study contributes towards more synthesised descriptions of the interactions between the home environments, social circumstances and human dynamics in burn events. Whereas data collection on household burn risks in an informal settlement in the project was concluded in 2014, in 2017 our activities focused on dissemination. This included a community feedback workshop to Jackson informal settlement, a conference presentation, and two main publications.

Ashley van Niekerk and colleagues published the article "Household and caregiver characteristics and behaviours as predictors of unsafe exposure of children to paraffin appliances" in the international journal *Burns*, and David Kimemia and Ashley van Niekerk published the article "Energy poverty, shack fires

and childhood burns" in the *South African Medical Journal*.

PSYCHOSOCIAL RECOVERY OF PAEDIATRIC BURN VICTIMS

This study Psychosocial Recovery of Paediatric Burn Victims aims to develop a visual documentary to support the recovery process of paediatric burn victims, specifically to: (1) demonstrate positive psychosocial recovery from paediatric burns through the use of film as a medium to communicate stories of resilience; (2) provide burn care centres with a tool that supports in-hospital psychosocial interventions for the child/patient-caregiver dyad; and (3) prepare paediatric burn patients and caregivers for social re-entry and re-integration from a strength-based perspective. The project is funded by the National Research Foundation and Stiftelsen för internationalisering av högre utbildning och forskning/Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education (STINT).

In 2017, the project team strengthened the partnership-building activities with Karolinska Institutet and Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital. We also commenced data collection with burn recovery experts and constituted a Child Protection Advisory Committee.

The year included a number of cross-disciplinary research exchanges in Sweden and South Africa. The South African research team, including Ashley Van Niekerk, Roxanne Jacobs, Nancy Hornsby and Robyn Singh, show-cased through multiple presentations the Violence, Injury & Peace Research Unit's burn programmatic work at the 17th Congress of the South African Burns Society. A highlight of this Congress was the panel discussion on "Long-term psychosocial outcomes in major burns: What can we do to determine outcomes and ideas to improve these?" on which Ashley and Roxanne presented.



INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGIES TO RECRUIT AND ENGAGE BURN RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

Burn injury is considered one of the most painful and stressful experiences that can disrupt an individual's life. Trauma, disfigurement and subsequent social avoidance is central to this experience, making this particular population particularly hard-to-reach for intervention or research purposes. As result, the long-term psychosocial effects of this severe injury is less understood and documented, especially in

settings with overburdened health and social support systems, such as in South Africa. Innovative Methodologies to Recruit and Engage Burn Research Participant is a PhD study by Roxanne Jacobs that will investigate innovative ways of conducting research with the hard-to-reach burn population, using technology to recruit and engage participants in research activities.

This study will commence in 2018 and be supported by the Department of Paediatric Surgery, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town. This study expects that the convenience and sense of enhanced anonymity through mechanisms such as WhatsApp will support burn

survivor engagement in research activities, and thereby increase the knowledge of long-term psychosocial adjustment process and outcomes.

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PEACE INDEX [CSPI]

Community safety and peace indicators that integrate local community knowledges are relatively underdeveloped worldwide. This has highlighted the need for community-engaged scholarship to develop indicators that take cognizance of important local challenges. The Community Safety and Peace Index

(CSPI) encapsulates both a theoretical and participatory grounded approach. The CSPI will assess the safety, peace and quality of life of residents and communities.

In 2017, a draft CSPI and Environmental Scan instruments were developed. The next phase in the development of the CSPI, the structural validity phase, will occur in 2018 and will comprise the piloting and psychometric evaluation of the instrument.

NATIONAL INJURY MORTALITY SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM [NIMSS]

The National Injury Mortality Surveillance System (or NIMSS) is currently the most detailed source of information on the “who, what, when and where” of fatal injuries in South Africa. It comprises information on 350 000-injury fatalities, and is a useful source of information

for monitoring injury trends, the effectiveness of prevention initiatives, and the accuracy of other data sources. Since 2001, the NIMSS has had, for varying periods, full coverage in a number of cities (including Johannesburg, Tshwane/ Pretoria, Durban and Cape Town), and currently maintains full coverage for Mpumalanga province and seven (out of ten) participating mortuaries in Gauteng.

VIPRU continues to provide information on the incidence and causes of non-natural deaths, as well as determine priorities for injury and violence prevention, through the collation, cleaning and generation of provincial epidemiological data and reports. VIPRU’s focus in 2017 was, firstly on strengthening the implementation of the electronic capture system in Mpumalanga, especially around issues of connectivity and data synchronisation with the eNIMSS server, and the maintenance of the Mpumalanga partnership. The latter

involved a well-supported NIMSS workshop held at Middelburg, Mpumalanga, where the NIMSS team, facility managers and eNIMSS data capturers engaged on training needs, system updates and developments and future collaborations. The Gauteng partnership, although prioritised around data collection will now be considered for 2018, to allow for the engagement of newly appointed state authorities in the region, and for the required clearance from relevant stakeholders for the manual collection of surveillance data.

The NIMSS has continued to support especially post-graduate studies, and responded to a number of data requests with a technical report on the injury and violence priorities for Gauteng. In 2018-2019, VIPRU is planning for a national launch of the eNIMSS, a series of technical reports for Gauteng and Mpumalanga, and an analysis of the construction, implementation and utility of the eNIMSS.



The Cape Town research team that works on the National Injury Mortality Surveillance System

DROWNING PREVENTION AND WATER SAFETY IN THE WESTERN CAPE

In 2017, the Western Cape Department of Local Government commissioned VIPRU to develop a Strategic Framework for Drowning Prevention and Water Safety. The Western Cape has experienced approximately 200 drownings per year, with children under the age of 5 years most at risk (4.7 deaths per 100 000 population). The three bodies of water that account for the highest proportions of fatal drowning incidents are 1) the ocean, 2) ponds, dams and lakes; and 3) rivers and canals; although this varies by the age of victims. The Framework identifies priority drowning risks, high-risk activities, equipment and the population and communities most affected. It highlights evidence-based prevention efforts that are being internationally and locally implemented, and promising others that may be appropriate for the prevention of drowning in the Western Cape Province. The Strategic Framework has prioritised seven objectives to promote water safety and help prevent drowning in targeted population groups and areas.

THE OBJECTIVES ARE:

Establish a provincial information strategy and systems based on existing platforms

Strengthen advocacy and enforcement of priority policy measures

Promote multi-sectoral partnerships and water safety collaborations

Strengthen institutional prevention capacity

Strengthen public and specialised education and community awareness

Develop priority barrier interventions

Develop priority infrastructural interventions

A Water Safety Task Team, including Lifesaving South Africa, National Sea Rescue Institute (NSRI), and cognate Departments in the Western Cape Government was constituted in 2017 and provided oversight to the development of Framework, while the Western Cape Government funded the initiative. The Western

Cape Strategic Framework for Drowning Prevention and Water Safety was officially launched in Yzerfontein on the 11th November 2017. The Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Mr Anton Bredell, expressed a considerable interest in the Framework and a commitment to implementing the Framework objectives, singling out the prioritisation of swimming pool and dam safety barrier policy or guidelines for the province. VIPRU will support the Water Safety Task Team in enabling in 2018 the further uptake of the Framework objectives. VIPRU will in 2018 focus on selected contributions to a still emerging knowledge base in South Africa, and conduct analyses of epidemiological and qualitative information collected or collated through the initiative, on drowning incidents and trends, demographics, the circumstances of their occurrence, and priorities for drowning prevention in the Western Cape.



Launch of the Western Cape Strategic Framework for Drowning Prevention and Water Safety, 11 November 2017, Yzerfontein



Launch of the Western Cape Strategic Framework for Drowning Prevention and Water Safety, 11 November 2017, Yzerfontein

THE SOCIAL ANATOMY OF (NON-) VIOLENT PROTEST IN GAUTENG PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA

Recently, South Africa has experienced an escalation in the frequency of public protests, with impoverished communities expressing grievances related to basic services, such as water and electricity, housing, and employment opportunities, as well as dissatisfaction with municipal boundary demarcations and local councillor performance. Gauteng, when compared to other provinces, has registered the highest number of protests. The rise in protests has seen a concomitant increase in the outbreak of public violence that includes acts of interpersonal violence, damage to property and extensive social disruptions.

As a contribution to the development of an evidence-base and theoretical platform from which public violence prevention policy and practice may be informed, the project aims to further understanding about the

social anatomy of (non-) violent public protests (2001-2015) in Gauteng, and study violent public protests as a political and psychological conjunctural moment. These aims are sensitive to protests as complex social phenomena and the multiple factors (area/neighbourhood, situational and individual) that interact to drive and determine the nature (non-violent; violent) of protests. This research intends to use multiple data sources, including police statistics, media and video footage, to offer a comprehensive profile and ecologically informed account of (non-) violent protests in Gauteng Province.

The specific objectives are to: 1) Delineate the incidence and geographical distribution of (non-) violent public protests in Gauteng (2001-2015) including its three largest metropolitan cities; 2) Determine the socio-structural ecology, namely the area level characteristics (e.g. crime rates, poverty, concentration of youthful population, and access to services) correlated with violent public protests in Gauteng; 3) Determine whether changes in area level characteristics are associated with changes in the incidence of

violent protests over time (2001-2005, 2011-2015); 4) Establish whether there are differences in socio-demographic characteristics, civic engagement, and perceptions of government's performance between citizens who have not protested, protested, and protested and used violence for a political cause; 5) Determine the immediate situational triggers (e.g. relationship dynamics, dominant feelings, police actions, and perceptions at a given moment in the protests) for violence in public protests; 6) Study (non-) violent protests as dynamic multi-modal phenomena; and 7) Explore the meanings that protestors in selected communities and police who attend to protest attribute to the contributors, triggers, circumstances and enactments of violent protests.

Noting the health, economic, social and psychological consequences of protest violence, and that there is some degree of variation and differences in information on the incidence, frequency and patterns of protests in South Africa, this project seeks to advance the methodological and theoretical foundations of research on public protests.



THEMBELIHLE SAFETY DEMONSTRATION SITE

The interventions in Thembelihle have three interconnected focus areas, namely direct violence, structural violence and epistemic violence.

Our aim is to develop interventions, through community-engaged research, that promote a culture of safety and peace, both within this community and, ultimately, across other similar contexts in South Africa and in the African region. Direct violence, that is, physical (anatomical) or psychological (relating to the psyche) violence between individuals and groups that disrupts 'normal' social functioning, is challenged through a general

focus on safety promotion and peacebuilding. Structural violence, or the ways in which normalised social systems disadvantage certain communities or population groups, is addressed through activities that focus on community-building and the facilitation and making of inter- and intra-community networks.

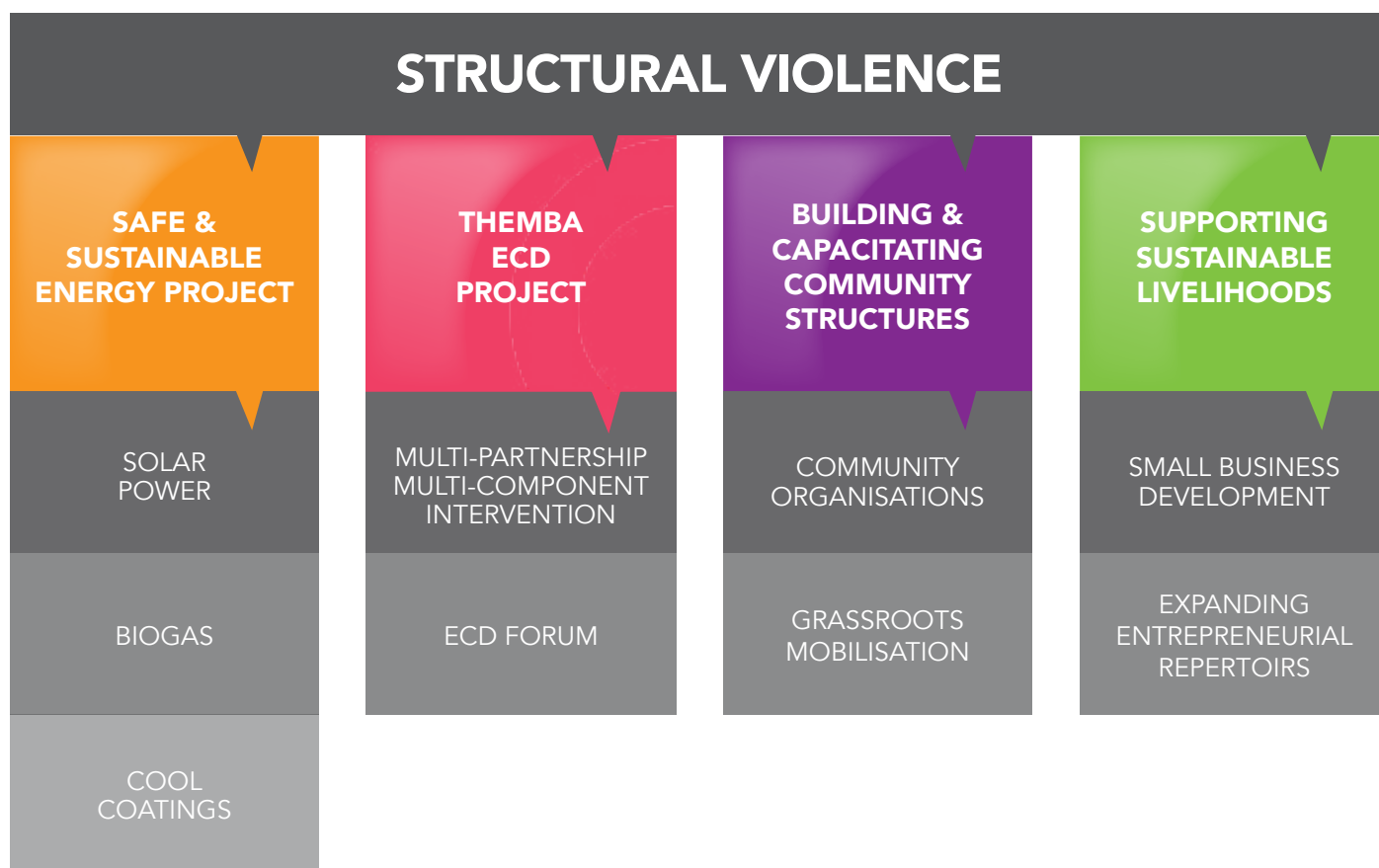
Epistemic violence, related to the arrangement of knowledge systems and how marginalised groups are constructed by dominant groups, is challenged through interventions that privilege knowledge creation and sharing, both from within and outside the community. These three facets or formations of violence accords nuance to our work and imbues it with a criticality that is often absent in orthodox research on violence that tends to focus

predominantly on direct violence. Our current basket of interventions include several projects that work together to facilitate change at multiple levels within the community.

THEMBA ECD PROJECT

Early childhood development (ECD) centres in low-resourced communities face numerous challenges, which limit the quality of services that they are able to provide. These centres are largely unregistered and therefore do not receive government subsidies, exacerbating the multiple challenges that they face.

The purpose of the Themba ECD Project is to strengthen the capacity of ECD Centres in Thembelihle to enable them to meet children's



learning and developmental needs in preparation for primary school. In doing so, we hope to improve children's educational opportunities and capacities to learn. Well-functioning ECD centres have been shown to combat inequality, one of the primary risk factors for both the perpetration of and vulnerability to direct violence, as well as one of the core and sustaining elements of structural violence.

Through training in management and administration, training in the implementation of a standardised curriculum, provision of a nutritional feeding to enhance children's capacity to learn, and support for the ECD Forum, the project seeks to assist centres to better equip children for school.



Tshebedisano ECD forum fundraising event, 9 August (Women's Day), Lenasia



“

Structural violence is perpetuated when communities remain fragmented in the face of violent political and socio-economic structures.

”

BUILDING AND CAPACITATING COMMUNITY STRUCTURES

With the project on Building and Capacitating Community Structures aims to build and capacitate those community structures that work to unite the Thembelihle community. We also aim to facilitate the development of new grassroots organisations and community mobilisation initiatives to address both the immediate needs of community members and the broader structural challenges they face.

We intend to achieve this through capacitation workshops that assist community members with conceptualising, planning, managing and

evaluating successful community-driven interventions, as well as through the facilitation of networking opportunities and the assistance with technical resources. Ultimately, through this project we hope to instigate large-scale community mobilisation against intersecting forms of oppression, resulting in an increasingly challenged macro-structure that has to adapt to the community's demands for structural justice.

SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

South Africa is the site of stark socio-economic inequalities, even more than two decades after the demise of apartheid. These inequalities are driven by race,

and are materialised in the form of residential inequality, which has as its result the continued exclusion from and limitation of economic opportunities. The Supporting Sustainable Livelihoods project aims to work against this particular form of structural violence through the support of small businesses and other initiatives aimed at improving the livelihoods of residents of Thembelihle. In addition, we also hope to facilitate the expansion of entrepreneurial repertoires among community members through the collaborative development of creative solutions to their everyday problems. In order to achieve these aims, we facilitate capacitation workshops and networking opportunities with development organisations, as well as inter-community networking around the development of sustainable solutions.



CARTOGRAPHY OF VIOLENCE AND PEACE

The Cartography of Violence and Peace project aims to explore innovative ways to document and measure change in patterns of direct violence and peace in Thembelihle. The project also measures violence and peace associated risk and protective factors. To do this, we employ a multi-faceted approach, which includes community asset mapping, a survey designed to delineate the current incidence, nature and patterns of exposure to violence, and to identify those factors that contribute to and undermine peace and safety. The asset mapping workshops we have conducted so far have revealed the extent to which community-identified assets can facilitate the engagement of the community members themselves in

developing a community that mobilises for peace.

COMMUNITY STORYLINES

The project Community Storylines constitutes three components: a collaborative documentary film, digital stories, and a participatory film. Within each of these, participants from the community work with researchers and film-makers to produce multimedia products that attempt to tell particular stories around dehumanisation and formulate (re)humanisation discourses and practices that resist and re-story dominant narratives. Participants are drawn from various groups in the community, including school-going youth, adults who have lived in the community for a number of years and foreign nationals. In this way,

we provide a platform for a range of community members to articulate and enact epistemic justice. Through planned screenings in diverse spaces in and beyond Thembelihle, we aim to support (re)humanising spaces that facilitate social recognition, community cohesion and community action. In this regard, the project allows for innovative ways through which to express modes of resistance and spaces of (re)humanisation that speak to South Africa's violent and unequal contemporary socio-political landscape. The project therefore sees an establishment of platforms through which participant voice can be harnessed to resist dominant meta-narratives as well as other oppressive societal forces.



Photovoice Colloquium, 17 May 2017: Visit to the Apartheid Museum

“

Photovoice addresses the call to include diminished voices in efforts to address the deleterious conditions to which many African youth are exposed.

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Community Asset Mapping Workshop, 22 May, Lenasia



Participants on the Digital Stories component of the Community Storylines project

COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY CONVERSATION AND LECTURE SERIES

This Series, initiated in early 2016, is a community-engaged intervention that provides a platform for broad-based information-sharing in the Thembelihle community. In the year under report, the Series has shown significant growth in terms of participation and engagement by community members.

The Series consists of conversations and lectures facilitated by both experts in diverse fields and individual community members or groups. In particular, the inclusion of community members as knowledge 'experts', and through according legitimacy to community-based knowledges, the series' focus on knowledge-making and knowledge-sharing contributes to our agenda of pursuing epistemic justice. The topics of engagement in the past year have also aligned with our goals of addressing direct and structural violence, and have included on focus on gender-based violence, xenophobia, as well as community development, and the building of community organisations. The Series has shown itself to be a generative space that bridges the gap between subject experts and marginalised groups, and has been the site of vibrant and productive

CHILDREN'S ACTIVISM TOWARDS SAFE SPACES:

A PHOTOVOICE PARTNERSHIP

This capacitation and mentorship project, supported by terre des hommes (tdh) Germany's regional coordination office for Southern Africa, focused on the implementation of a child-centred Photovoice project by tdh partners in Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. Through the provision of regular training, mentorship and technical support, the project aimed to strengthen and build partners' capacities to implement Photovoice methodology

as an approach to supporting child protection in precarious environments. The tdh partners implemented the methodology with 30 children across the participating sites. Employing such formats as photo exhibitions, dialogues with municipal-level authorities on child protection, community campaigns, and a photo book, the project has effected material changes at the local level that function to mitigate risks to child safety. Through the inclusion of children in systems of knowledge creation and social activism, the project's contributions have included: challenging the dominant discourses on child safety and protection; privileging marginalised voices and the co-construction of social change; and supporting a culture of competencies by recognising children as influential civic actors, as social assets, and as possessing generative capacities. Importantly, the project has contributed to existing regional platforms for the development of safe spaces for children, the strengthening of local child protection mechanisms, and the engagement of children in child protection related social activism in their respective communities.

PHOTOVOICE COLLOQUIUM:

YOUTH REPRESENTATIONS OF SAFETY

In May 2017, a total of 40 young people from several African countries convened in South Africa for a 4-day colloquium on youth representations of safety. The colloquium was the result of ongoing engagement with groups of young people intended to avail platforms for meaningful youth participation in violence and injury prevention, and safety and peace promotion initiatives in indicated communities. As part of its youth-focused community engagement, the ISHS and its partner, VIPRU, implemented Photovoice methodology with young people from South Africa, Mozambique, Zambia, Uganda, Ethiopia and Egypt to photograph things, places and people that make them feel safe or unsafe

in their respective communities. As a community engagement strategy that utilises participant photography to observe the experiences and perspectives of marginalised people, Photovoice addresses the call to include diminished voices in efforts to address the deleterious conditions to which many African youth are exposed. Here, Photovoice sought to position young people as legitimate knowledge-producers and transformative social agents, and drew on the engagement with the participating youth to galvanise young people's voices as a means of situating them in critical dialogue with adults, including decision-makers, as well as to catalyse youth-led safety and peace promotion campaigns at the local level. The success of the colloquium was signified by the rich contributions made by the participants, reflective of their leadership and social activism; evidence of the resulting collaborations and networks within and across the participating country groups; indicators of material changes in some of the communities that are directly attributable to this youth-centred community engagement; and the capacity of Photovoice to contribute to youth-driven social transformation.

AFRICAN SAFETY PROMOTION:

A JOURNAL ON INJURY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION

The ASP successfully published the June 2017 Issue (Vol. 15, No. 1) featuring 2 perspectives and 2 original contributions dealing with a range of issues including violent protests, gender-based and intimate partner violence, and road traffic injuries. Yandisa Sikweyiya and Sebenzile Nkosi elucidate the gendered nature of violent protests while the piece by Elizabeth Dartnall and Anik Gevers describes a trans-national South-South partnership project in East Africa that supports primary prevention research and intervention development for violence against women and children. Corné Davis and Dirk Meerkotter explore

CHILDREN'S SAFETY ACTIVISM: PHOTO STORIES FROM

Africa

the value of non-personal data in research and prevention of sexual- and gender-based violence in South Africa. The article by Joseph Balikuddembe and colleagues highlight the need to mainstream road safety policy in the East African Community to reduce road traffic injuries. The issue concludes with: a conference report on the Phoenix Rehabilitation and Prevention - European Burn Association Joint Workshop on Burn Rehabilitation and Prevention; a call to the Injury Control and Traffic Safety Training Course which was held

in Johannesburg from 2-4 October 2017; and a conference call to the 7th African Regional Safe Communities and Peace Promotion Conference: Strengthening Community Prevention and Promotive Responses, to be hosted in Maputo, Mozambique from 23-26 July 2018. Recent statistics on full text downloads from the African Journals Online web platform demonstrate the broadening readership the ASP has in countries such as United Kingdom, Iran, India, China USA, and Canada. Given that the ASP seeks to promote violence

and injury research relevant to the African context, ongoing efforts are required to elevate the ASP use and readership in the African continent. Figures 1 and 2 provide geographical representations of the presence of the journal (darker colours signify higher numbers). In 2017, the ASP once again received a high volume of submissions, although the majority of these were not considered suitable for publication. Consequently, only one Issue was published in 2017 with three, including a Special Issue, planned for 2018.

AFRICAN SAFETY PROMOTION: A JOURNAL OF INJURY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION

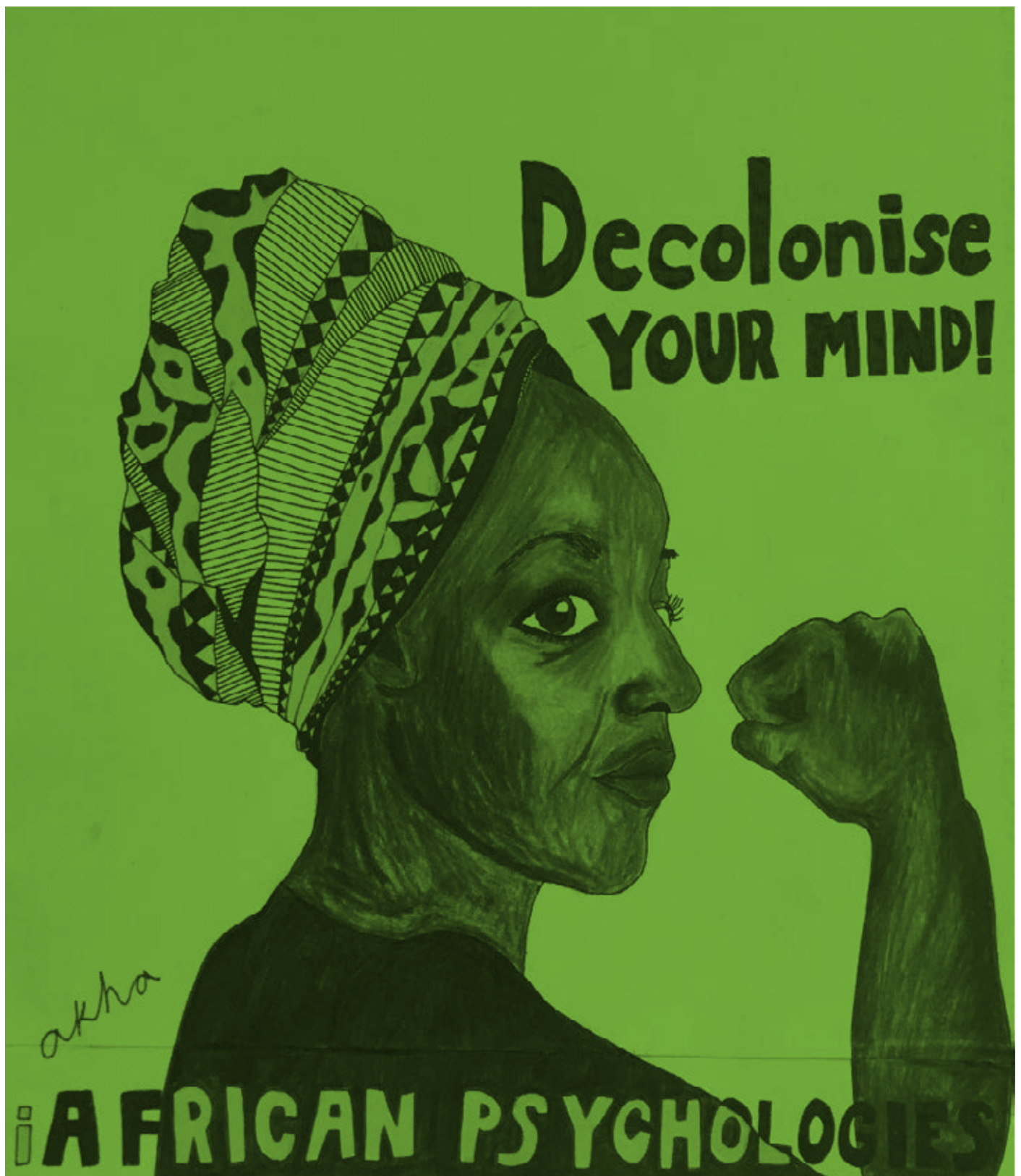
AJOL abstract views by country
September 2017



AFRICAN SAFETY PROMOTION: A JOURNAL OF INJURY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION

AJOL article downloads by country
September 2017





TRANSDISCIPLINARY AFRICAN PSYCHOLOGIES PROGRAMME

TAP

TAP understands African psychologies as African-situated knowledge. While it covers all areas covered by mainstream Western-centred psychology as well as the many areas neglected by Western-centred psychology, TAP departs from an African-situated decolonising approach. As a transdisciplinary, decolonising programme, TAP is interested in points of convergence between the discipline of psychology and other disciplines that study Africa and Africans. TAP aims to become the leading hub of knowledge on African-situated decolonised psychologies for teachers, researchers, practitioners, students and the general public.

TAP contributes to psychology and studies of Africa through:



RESEARCH

community engagement, and social activism to the development of transdisciplinary, African-situated, decolonising psychologies



COLLABORATIONS

with others on mutually beneficial, collaborative projects on transdisciplinary, African-situated, decolonising psychologies



ATTRACTING

master's and doctoral students, postdoctoral candidates and interns to undertake work in areas of interest to TAP



DEVELOPING

and maintaining a variety of platforms and vehicles with a view to sharing and disseminating news on work on transdisciplinary, African-situated, decolonising psychologies

TAP'S KEY OBJECTIVES ARE TO:

A

Develop transdisciplinary, African-situated decolonising psychologies;

B

Undertake work informed by African-situated, decolonising psychological insights;

C

Understand how Africa is studied, hailed, constructed and consumed in psychology as well as how psychology is taught, studied, practiced and used in Africa and by Africans

D

Create and disseminate a variety of materials and tools related to transdisciplinary, African-situated, decolonising psychologies.

TRANSDISCIPLINARY AFRICAN PSYCHOLOGIES PROGRAMME COLLOQUIUM SERIES

The (TAP) Colloquium Series is driven by the aim to centre Africa in health and social scientific research, teaching and advocacy. The series of colloquia is partly motivated by a long history of political activism against oppression and intellectual thought for freedom, partly, in more recent times, by university students' demands for the decolonisation of the university. The principal objective in curating the events is to entrench the imperative to decolonise and centre Africa and Africans in global knowledge. While we are specifically concerned with psychological research, teaching and therapies, the colloquia are informed by the general need to centre Africa in health and social research, teaching and practice more broadly. In addition, we want to centralise the lived experiences and perspectives of Africans in knowledge-making and knowledge networks rather than western Europeans or North Americans'.

Singly and collaboratively, through TAP our intention is provide an opportunity for researchers, teachers, university and science council managers, policymakers, activists, and students to vigorously deliberate, in light of the calls for decolonisation and transformation, over pertinent issues related to knowledge, its making and dissemination. The TAP colloquium series in particular is seen as creating spaces for students, researchers, activists, teachers, research council and university managers, and policymakers to dialogue about: (i) decolonisation as a critical way in reclaiming and validating African-centred knowledge, views, approaches, techniques, and questions; (ii) powerful routes to situate Africa and Africans in global scholarship, policies, and advocacy; and (iii) optimal ways to inculcate the idea that moving from an African-centred positionality in research, teaching and practice does not mean disre-

garding Euro-American perspectives.

In 2017 in addition to an invited symposium organised by Kopano and held as part of the 1st Pan African Psychology Union Congress held in September in Durban, TAP ran a series of three colloquia.

CENTERING AFRICA IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SCIENCES RESEARCH AND TEACHING:

This **1st colloquium**, was held at the South African Medical Research Council on Tuesday May 30, 2017. The main question that stimulated the first colloquium was how Africa is situated in health and social science research, research policy, research funding and teaching. Towards this end, the colloquium brought together researchers, teachers, a politician, practitioners, and students to dialogue on challenges and developments within health and social science teaching, research, research funding and policymaking conducted in diverse settings across Africa. We sought to provide an opportunity to learn, present, share and question research, policies or their absence, teaching and learning in the context of the persistence of coloniality and epistemic injustice in Africa-related health and social science research. In addition to the major question that urged the colloquium, namely how Africa is situated in health and social science research, research policy, research funding and teaching, we encouraged the participants to grapple with questions such as: What epistemological assumptions and biographies do teachers and researchers bring to studies on Africans and classes of African students? Who and what goals do social and health science studies and courses ultimately serve? Does the class, race and gender – meaning how one defines being African – of the teacher and researcher matter?

Among the participants in the event was the President of the South African Medical Research Council, Prof. Glenda Gray, who welcomed the participants to the MRC. She went to observe that the MRC-UNISA

VIPRU, our sister Unit with whom TAP hosted the colloquium, was the first Unit within the MRC to engage in a dialogue on decolonisation in health research. She instructed VIPRU to lead the MRC in developing a position paper on decolonisation on behalf of the MRC, noting that such a document would be a first among science councils.

The minister in the executive council (MEC) in the Western Cape Province responsible for health, Prof. Noma-french Mbombo, also attended the colloquium. She was invited to give a talk reflecting on "health services policies and delivery in the context of calls for decolonisation". Prof. Mbombo reflected on training and education within the health professions during apartheid. She gave a broad overview on the categories of health services in the province. She stated that in order for government to have a focused research agenda, health research institutions must engage government around research findings in order for it to effect the desired health services and practice outcomes. The centrality of students in the current knowledge struggles was evidenced by the active participation of students and recently graduated students in the event. Among the students and recently graduated students who spoke at the colloquium were Ms Zanele Motsepe, Mr Sisesakhe Ntlabezo and Ms Keitumetse Tsematse.

Other speakers were Dr. Thomas Nyirenda of the European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership, Ms. Zoleka Ngcete of the Strategic Health Innovation Partnerships Grants, Innovation and Product Development the MRC, Prof. Sandy Lazarus who was for decades associated with the University of the Western Cape and is currently a part-time researcher at Unisa and the MRC, Dr. Nadine Harker Burnhams of the Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Research Unit at the MRC, and Dr. Wanga Zembe-Mkhabile of the Health Systems Research Unit at the MRC, who gave a moving talk on the dehumanizing effects of some types of research on poor Africans, questioned the casual experimentation on black people in health research and called for the

protection of research participants, especially black poor people. Zembe-Mkhabile's insistence on the need for research that respect people's dignity and humanity was the inspiration for the title of the second colloquium.

DECOLONISATION, PLURIVERSALITY, AND AFRICAN-SITUATEDNESS IN SEXUALITY AND SEXUALITY-RELATED VIOLENCE RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY:

The **2nd colloquium** was held on July 25, 2017 at the South African Medical Research Council, Parow. The speakers at the colloquium were Dr Shose Kessi of the University of Cape Town (UCT), Professor Floretta Boonzaier, also of UCT, and Professors Yanga Zembe of the University of the Western Cape and the MRC, and Rebecca Helman, a PhD student at Unisa as well and researcher affiliated to VIPRU, and the well-known activist Mr Mbuyiselo Botha of the South African Commission on Gender Equality. According to Professor Kopano Ratele, who gave the opening talk, similar to the first event, the second colloquium was part of the search for and better locate Africa and Africans in knowledge. He said locating Africa and Africans better means situating them in more unsteereotypical ways and less alienating ways in the edifice of knowledge. It means situating Africa as a place of knowledge-making for the world and locating Africans as theory-makers, not only data creators. It means dealing with the very question of what knowledge itself is, as well as its dissemination and the building of publics of the knowledge we create as researchers, teachers, students, professionals, policymakers, or activists.

Whereas the first colloquium took a broad sweep of the social and health sciences, underpinned by the question, how might we better centre "Africa in health and social sciences research and teaching", the second colloquium focused on a more circumscribed set of topics, namely sexuality and sexual violence research and advocacy. The

question was therefore still about the location of knowledge, being as well as power after the facts of colonialism, slavery, and apartheid – but as expressed in sexuality and sexual violence work. The hope was to prompt students, teachers, and scholars to do more textured and in-depth decolonising work in their research investigations, lecture rooms, committees, networks, and within the self as part of the larger efforts to extricate themselves from the drawn-out effects of colonial, slavocratic and apartheid systems of power, feeling, thought and being.

DECOLONISATION, DIGNITY, HUMANISATION: AFRICAN SITUATED RESEARCH, TEACHING AND LEARNING IN HEALTH SCIENCES:

The **3rd colloquium** was held in collaboration Dean of Teaching and Learning within the College of Health Sciences at the University of KwaZulu Natal, Professor Sinegugu Duma. The colloquium is seen as the

result of the impact of the TAP colloquium series is having as Professor Sinegugu Duma had flown in to Cape Town from Durban to attend our very first colloquium whereupon she immediately entered into negotiations to co-host an event. Among the speakers at the colloquium was Prof. Nyna Amin of the University of Kwazulu Natal, who gave a talk on "Decolonising end of life care curriculum: Possibilities and pitfalls; University of KwaZulu Natal's Prof. Nhlanhla Mkhize who spoke on "The case for African Languages in Education"; Professor Ratele whose talk was entitled "What does decolonisation have to do with dignity and humanizing research, teaching and learning?". Professor Duma gave the opening remarks and set the tone for the day, while on Neziiswa Titi offered remarks on the day's proceedings. Several colloquia have been planned for 2018. These include the much-asked for one on African-centred research methods, epistemologies and ethics. 2018 will also see TAP having more collaborations with other universities.



Speakers and the organisers of the 2nd Colloquium of the Transdisciplinary African Psychologies Programme, 'Decolonisation, Pluriversality and African-Situatedness in Sexuality and Sexuality-Related Violence Research and Advocacy', held at the South African Medical Research Council, Tuesday May 30, 2017. From left to right, Ms Neziiswa Titi, convenor and PhD student at the University of South Africa; Professor Yanga Zembe, University of the Western Cape and Medical Research Council; Dr Shose Kessi, University of Cape Town; Professor Floretta Boonzaier, University of the Cape Town; Mr Mbuyiselo Botha, Commission of Gender Equality; Professor Kopano Ratele, convenor, University of South Africa and Medical Research Council.



Participants at the 'Centering Africa in Health and Social Science Research and Teaching' Colloquium, co-organised by the Transdisciplinary African Psychologies Programme and the Violence, Injury and Violence Research Unit, held at the South African Medical Research Council, Tuesday May 30, 2017.



Professor Yanga Zembe, University of the Western Cape and South African Medical Research Council, gave a talk on sexuality and sexuality related violence among LGBTGI.



The critical psychologist Dr Shose Kessi, Psychology Department, University of Cape Town, gave a talk under the title, 'Decolonisation, pluriversality, and African-situated knowledge'.



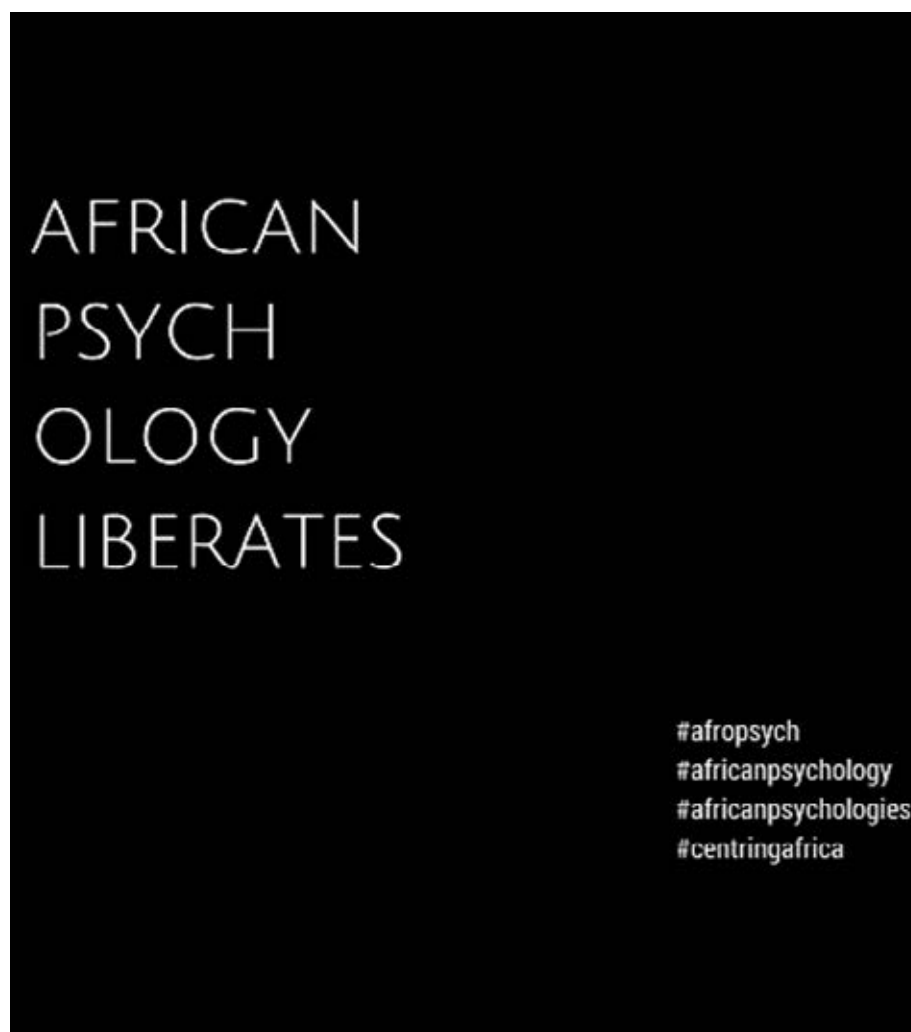
Prof. Glenda Gray, President and CEO of the SAMRC, shares her views on decolonisation in relation to health sciences, the burden of disease and the research Institution at the Centering Africa in Health and Social Sciences Research and Teaching.



Dr. Thomas Nyirenda of the SAMRC's European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) and Zoleka Ngcete from SAMRC's Grants, Innovation and Product Development Unit (GIPD) answer questions about health practice research's consideration of Africa and Africans.

TECH TAP

While TAP began as a vehicle to avail to a wider audience the talks delivered at TAP Colloquium Series, we immediately realised that technology offers a great opportunity to do more.



We began by creating a number of social media accounts for TAP, including:



The African Psychologies YouTube Channel;



African Psychologies Facebook page;



The African Psychology Twitter handle.

We also used NRF funding to create a professional website over which we could have control as the institutional website at Unisa and SAMRC often is not attuned to our dynamic needs.

The social media accounts have been great in disseminating the announcement of the colloquia and presentations. Our African Psychologies YouTube channel makes

it possible for wider public to hear and listen to the talks. We have received tremendous support from the South African Medical Research Council's Corporate & Marketing Communications Office who have shared announcement for the colloquium as well as links to the talks via the SAMRC's Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn accounts.

Social media makes it clear to an observer of global circuits of culture and information that in the world today there are more people than those who will ever read all of the works of Hussein Bulhan, Aimé Césaire, or Sojourner Truth. The more access to information becomes available to more people, the less time there is to read slowly and carefully. The more knowledge is produced in journals and books and newspapers, offline and online, the less deeply knowledgeable we become. Fake news, which deliberately is intended to mislead and misinform, is an outcome of these paradoxes.

As soon as we realised this paradoxes, we thought one way to tell the world what we are doing within TAP is to distil our message to suit the information glut age. We have began using African Psychologies Facebook page and the African Psychology Twitter handle to disseminate a distilled message about TAP. One vehicle we have used is Canva, which allows us to create aesthetically pleasing well-designed graphics, posters, flyers, Facebook posts. The aim is to bring attention to TAP and to generate interest in one simple graphic.

Something else that was obvious when we started going digital was the need for professional recording and editing. All the colloquia are professionally recorded and edited. The videos are made freely available via different social media and websites. We are creating a repository of digital talks that Africans and others can access at any time. Acquiring the services of young black professionals who could do the work for us followed hard work to find funding so as to support TAP going digital as well time to create platforms to disseminate the work.

We have created a series of ten short videos on "What is African psychology". We recognised the opportunity offered by the 1st Pan African Psychology Union Congress held in September in Durban, and shot a series of videos on the question "What is African Psychology?" Ten short videos as well as longer one called "What is African Psychology? Diverse Perspectives" were produced. The videos are available on our African Psychologies. "What is African Psychology? Diverse Perspectives" is also available through the website of the Psychological Society of South Africa.

Inspired by the work we have done so far under TECH TAP we have very exciting and more clearly defined projects for 2018:

The first project is to create a series we call the Great African psychologists YouTube series.

The second project is to produce a scripted documentary, with a story arc, on African psychology.

The third is to produce a regular series of 6-10 minute videos on Excellent Papers in African Psychology.

ALTERNATIVE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE MEASURES PROJECT: TOWARDS DECOLONISING THE REGIMES OF UNIVERSITY EXCELLENCE

In understanding the university as the by-product of Eurocentric traditions that assess scholarship and excellence through neoliberal, institutionalised metrics that obscure the political economies of knowledge production, the university appears to be fast losing its legitimacy as an institution of knowledge advancement geared towards serving society.

This project draws from a decolonial approach to offer a critique of existing academic performance measures. In collaboration with project participants, the aim is to de-

construct, de-ideologise and problematise ways of knowing, being and doing, and thereby to consider alternative appraisals of university excellence. Specifically, the project aims to decenter the technocracy of university performance measures through a critical interrogation of the 'world-class university' ideology, its colonial/neoliberal foundations and its technologies of power; and propose an alternative paradigm that offers a (re)visioning of the critical function of the university in service to society, and to propose the avenues through which such a function might be evaluated.

Following conceptual work and community engagement to assure receptivity and relevance for the project, in 2018 the focus will be on a series of conversations and group story-telling to develop grounded empirical anchors for the conceptual claims of the project.

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The project will engage university- and science council-based academics and researchers, institutional leaders, students and community activists in storytelling and conversations.

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Facilitator Dr Shose Kessi and Participants, 22 & 23 August, Lenasia



RESEARCH UNIT ON MEN & MASCULINITIES

RUMM

The work conducted under RUMM is intended to be attentive to the power of situatedness in producing knowledge and community engagement. The projects conducted under the Unit are informed by a critical and culturally perceptive approach to the subject of boys, men and masculinities.

The Unit has three main thrusts, namely to engage in projects that:



EXAMINE

the development, propagation, resistance and shifts of traditions (specifically sociocultural, gender and sexual, economic, intellectual and scientific traditions), with specific interest in the problematic issue of boys, men and masculinities in changing societies



GRAPPLE

with constructions of masculinities in the reproduction of and resistance against social injustice



CONTRIBUTE

to the transformation, on the back of sound research and theory, of the lives of particularly boys and men as a gender/ sex within the stream of tradition and culture towards healthier, happier, fulfilling, generative lives and relationships with their own gender/ sex and other genders and sexes

RUMM'S KEY OBJECTIVES ARE TO:

A

Contribute, through research, community engagement and social activism, to the study and interventions into the ways in which gender and tradition, intersecting with class, race, sexuality and other socially salient categories, are co-constitutive of the lives of boys, girls, women and men

B

Collaborate on mutually beneficial projects with gender activists, women's groups, queer thinkers, (pro)feminist scholars and teachers and other critical groups and individuals on projects related to boys, girls, women, men, masculinities, femininities, tradition and culture

C

Attract master's and doctoral students and interns to undertake work focusing on boys, men, girls, women, masculinities, femininities, tradition and culture

D

Develop and maintain a variety of platforms and vehicles with the objective of sharing and disseminating news on work related to boys, girls, men, women, femininities, masculinities, tradition and culture

DOING MASCULINITIES AND FEMININITIES AT HOME:

GENDER (IN)EQUITABLE PARENTING IN PATRIARCHAL AND FEMININITIES AT HOME

A research project which intended to expand on the limited understandings of the ways in which gender (in)equality is constructed and conveyed within the context of South African families. Children and parents in 18 families from a range of different material and cultural backgrounds were interviewed about the meanings and practices of gender within their homes.

The data reveal how problematic constructions of masculinity and femininity are (re)produced but also challenged within a range of different families. Gender and gender (in)equality are therefore routinely accomplished in complex ways.

In 2017 we presented a case study analysis of an interview with one of our participants, a genderqueer man, at the Men and Masculinities: Politics, Policy, Praxis Conference in Örebro, Sweden. The presentation entitled "Resisting Violence: Multiple Masculinities of a Gender Queer Man" demonstrated the complex and contradictory process involved in negotiating and resisting a violent version of masculinity. The presentation also explored how a genderqueer identity or state of "in-betweenness" facilitated a critical consciousness in relation to notions of gender and made non-violence possible. The paper from

which the presentation was derived is under review in the international journal *Global Health Action*.

END VIOLENCE: TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT GENDER EQUALITY

A public awareness and parenting skills project that focuses on the relationship between gender, violence and equality. The project is an extension of research which investigated the ways in which gender is constructed in South African families: "Doing masculinities and femininities at home: Gender (in) equitable parenting in patriarchal and feminist families".

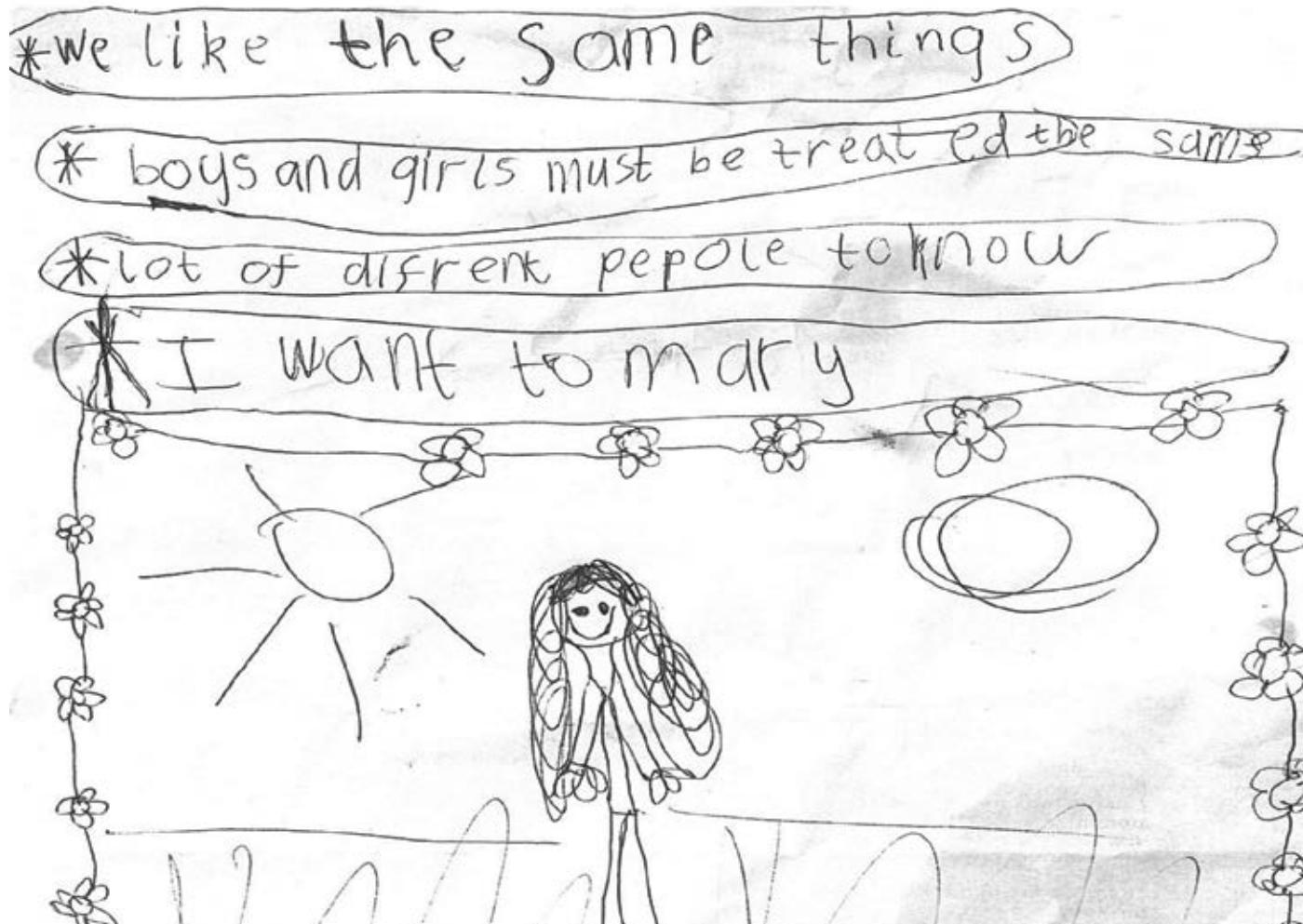
We have designed a pamphlet which provides parents with information about how to talk to their children about gender equality, non-violence and sexuality. The pamphlet has been translated into Afrikaans,

isiXhosa, Sesotho. The pamphlets will be distributed in 2019 in different communities in Cape Town and Johannesburg. We will also use opportunities to distribute the pamphlet at different conferences, meetings, workshops and events to spread the message of talking to children as a way to end violence and enhance gender equality.

EQUAL FAMILIES

This project, which investigates how gender equality becomes possible in families, is made up of three components: qualitative interviews and observations, a quantitative questionnaire and a documentary film.

In 2017 year we interviewed and observed three families that identify themselves as "feminist" or "equal". We interviewed them about how gender and gender equality and



then we observed how they practice gender equality in their daily lives. We observed how they cook, eat together, discuss issues of gender, and do homework.

We observed that within these families there is space to engage with gender in different and more liberatory ways. This was true for both children and parents. This increased freedom and deconstruction of binary assumptions of gender is summed up by one child in the study who said, in a discussion of gender non-conformity: "you are who you are and you're amazing". However, we also observed how achieving gender equality is a daily struggle and how families work hard (both at home and beyond) to make or keep things equal. For the quantitative component of the study, we designed a survey to explore attitudes and practices of gender equality within families. The survey

aimed to investigate the relationship between attitudes and practices of gender equality, as well as the relationship between gender equality and (non)violence. The questions were administered by TNS Kantar as a mobile survey to approximately 1700 adults, all of whom care for children over the age of four. The documentary film is intended as an activation and engagement tool around issues of gender equality within families. The documentary draws on and build upon the results of a research project.

The film focuses on the daily practices and narratives of two self-identified egalitarian families. The documentary aims to engage a wide audience and raise awareness as to the benefits of gender equality within families. Filming for the documentary has commenced. The film will be screened at various public and community events, as well as via a range of online platforms in 2018.

“

These public and online screenings will provide opportunities for dialogue and discussion with various social actors (including parents, organisations working with families and policy-makers) regarding the promotion of gender equality within families.

”

DOCTORAL STUDIES

Kasia Venter



VISIBILISING CHILDREN'S CONSTRUCTIONS AND SPACINGS OF CHILDHOOD

This PhD aims to investigate how childhood is performed in the material reality of an informal settlement. It is interested in children's negotiations between space, identity and constructions of childhood. The contributions of this PhD project lie in its epistemic refocus on the nuance and complexity of childhood. It aims to centralise the experiences of South African children in ways that challenges a deficit focused, western-centred approach, recognising childhood as geographically, historically and socially located.

Josephine Cornell



DYNAMICS OF IDENTITY AND SPACE IN HIGHER EDUCATION: AN INSTITUTIONAL ETHNOGRAPHIC CASE STUDY OF A 'TRANSFORMING' UNIVERSITY

Josephine Cornell is a PhD student in the Department of Psychology at the University of Cape Town (UCT), under the supervision of Dr Shose Kessi with co-supervision from Professor Kopano Ratele. Through an institutional ethnography, Josephine's study aims to examine the dynamics of space and identity at UCT, in the context of a contested, ongoing and incomplete transformation process. Specifically, it will explore space and identity as constructed by students and space and identity as constructed and organised by the University.

This single-site ethnographic case study will involve a photovoice project run with students; the collection of multi-modal data in which space is documented, depicted or discussed; campus observations; and semi-structured interviews with staff and policy makers within the administration who deal with campus space. Josephine is in the first year of study and has completed her proposal and received ethics approval. In the upcoming year she will commence with data collection for this study.

Nancy Hornsby



TESTING THE EFFICACY OF THE EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITISATION REPROCESSING INTERVENTION IN A SOUTH AFRICAN ADULT BURN POPULATION: A RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIAL

Despite being highly preventable, burns injuries remain a major public health concern worldwide and are major causes of mortality and morbidity in low- to middle-income countries with death rates 11 times higher in these countries compared to high-income countries. Burn injuries involve significant painful experiences which could result in long-term psychosocial sequelae. Considerable promise has been shown for Eye Movement Desensitisation Reprocessing (EMDR) as an effective intervention in the treatment of anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and depression symptoms in adults who have experienced a traumatic event.

To date, no research (or research conducted in comparable settings) could be found that assess the effectiveness of EMDR within the South African context. Moreover, no known research exists for the effectiveness of EMDR in adults who have suffered burn trauma and present with anxiety, acute stress disorder (ASD) and PTSD. The proposed doctoral study will therefore set out to test the effectiveness of EMDR in reducing anxiety-related symptoms among adults who have been admitted to a Cape Town hospital with burn injuries by means of a randomised controlled trial with baseline, 3-month, 6-month, and 12-month follow-up.

Nicholas Malherbe



EXPERIENCES OF AND RESISTANCES TO VIOLENCE USING COLLABORATIVE DOCUMENTARY FILM-MAKING

Constitutive of four components, this study will attempt to examine how participants creatively construct experiences and representations of violence. The first study will examine how Thembelihle, a low-resourced settlement located in south-west Johannesburg, has been discursively constructed by mainstream news media reports. These dominant constructions will then inform the second study, which endeavours to interrogate the politics of recognition that emerges and is shaped by various socio-political, historical and economic forces operating in contemporary South Africa by utilising collaborative documentary film-making method. The third study will examine how, at public screenings of the film, audience members - from outside of, as well as those directly involved in, the film's production - engage in critical dialogue and catalyse social action in response to the film's themes.

The final study seeks to analyse how participants construct social justice capacity as connected to collaborative documentary film-making, and how this can be used towards liberatory ends. It is anticipated that the four components will provide a better understanding of how collaborative documentary film-making is able to resist and re-present dominant discourses that, so often, serve elite, exploitative, and/or marginalising interests.

Ghouwa Ismail



A MIXED METHODS APPROACH TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF AN ASSESSMENT TOOL TO MEASURE PSYCHO-SOCIAL FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN CHILD-CENTRED INITIATIVES

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The primary aim of the study was to develop a psychosocial assessment tool for determining willingness to participate in child-centred safety promotion interventions, specifically in a low income community in South Africa.

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The secondary aim was to determine the factors associated with willingness to participate. The study employed a mixed methods approach to develop the measure, and included content validation, item writing and initial validation processes. Nominal Group Technique discussions were conducted with various role-players in the relevant communities to inform the development of the instrument, while participatory methodologies were utilised to conceptualise the instrument in relation to psycho-social factors associated with intervention participation, with these categorised according to core dimensions.

A Delphi method utilising an expert panel reviewed items for relevance, difficulty and ambiguity, with items subsequently amended or removed. Item selection procedures were conducted on the English version of the instrument and these results were applied to the Afrikaans version. A pilot study was conducted as part of the initial validation in order to test the items and format the questionnaire. The instrument was then administered to Afrikaans speaking individuals in a community in the Western Cape. Iterative exploratory factor analysis was conducted at both the item and scale levels to select and reassign items and scales in order to determine the final composition of the questionnaire. The findings indicate that the instrument measures seven factors, namely incentives; priorities and community needs; perceived benefits; social approval; accessibility and values; altruistic capital; and community cohesion.

These factors are explained in terms of the Process -Person-Context-Time model and the Theory of Planned Behaviour, considered within a participatory framework. The study findings indicate that the seven factors represent salient dimensions of the construct willingness to participate in interventions. The questionnaire and its subscales displayed acceptable to good reliability, with Cronbach's α ranging from 0.55 to 0.80. Since willingness precedes actual participation, it is argued that insight into the factors that relate to willingness to participate provides an avenue for motivating actual participation.

Refiloe Makama



LOBOLO: AN APPARATUS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF GENDERED IDENTITIES AND POWER WITHIN BLACK FAMILIES

The aim of this study is gain a deeper understanding of gender norming and the operation of power appropriation through the custom of lobolo within urban black families in South Africa. By focusing on how individuals use narratives to assume gendered positions in relations to participating in lobolo and how these narratives reveal or conceal operation of power. This study to contribute to the growing scholarship of critical African psychologies that demystifies African knowledges by unearthing knowledges and practices that influences behaviours from an African centred perspective without demonizing or problematizing them.

Roxanne Jacobs



LONG-TERM PSYCHOSOCIAL ADJUSTMENT AFTER A CHILDHOOD BURN INJURY: APPLYING AN INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY TO RECRUIT AND ENGAGE A HARD-TO-REACH POPULATION IN RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.

Burn injury is considered one of the most painful and stressful experiences that disrupts normal life. Trauma, disfigurement and subsequent social avoidance is central to this experience, making this particular population particularly hard-to-reach for research purposes. As result, the long-term psychosocial effects of this severe injury is less understood and documented in South Africa. This study proposes to apply innovative ways of conducting research on this hard-to-reach burn population, using technology to recruit and engage participants in research activities. This study is supported by the Department of Paediatric Surgery, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town, and will commence in 2018.

DOCTORAL STUDIES

Sarah Day



WOMEN'S PERFORMANCES OF DECOLONIAL PEACE

This PhD aims to examine how women perform decolonial peace as resistance to direct, structural and epistemic violence at and between different sites, including the body, home, community, and sphere of (un-)employment.

It will do this through four objectives, which are to:

- 1) Examine how women resist and negotiate intersections of power in their communities;
- 2) Examine how women perform decolonial peace in home environments;
- 3) Examine how women perform decolonial peace in spaces of employment and unemployment, and;
- 4) Examine how I, as a raced, gendered and classed subject, perform decolonial peace in my own spaces.

Sipho Dlamini



(RE)-CENTRING AFRICA IN THE TRAINING OF MASTERS COUNSELLING AND CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Sipho Dlamini is a PhD student in the Department of Psychology at the University of South Africa, supervised by Professor Kopano Ratele. Using an Afrocentric framework and Legitimation Code Theory as a conceptual tool, Sipho's PhD seeks to investigate the alignment or misalignment of the training of counselling and clinical psychologists with the South African context. In particular the study will focus on the selection of candidates and pedagogical practices as practices of exclusion and inclusion of the pluriversal South African society.

The study will be conducted at five university training sites, using in-depth interviews with course coordinators and intern psychologists, whilst additional data will be collected from the archival information such as course material and legal documentation.

Rebecca Helman



POST-RAPE SUBJECTIVITIES

This study aims to provide a nuanced and intersectional analysis of how contemporary discursive and material politics are implicated in the construction of post-rape subjectivities. Post-rape subjectivities refer to the ways in which rape (re)constitutes an individual's sense of herself and her relation to the world. The study draws on narratives of nine other womxn, as well as my own experience of "surviving" rape. This thesis has the potential to provide important insights for the development of multi-level interventions to support survivors of sexual violence.

Neziswa Titi



HOW CHILDREN MAKE MEANING OF SEXUAL TRAUMA

Using Afrocentricity, the purpose of this study is to investigate how children make meaning of sexual trauma through a narrative research design. As part of its three objectives, the study aims to develop an African-centered child-centric psychological conceptual tool to understand how black children make sense of sexual violence related trauma.

The significance of doing this research is in two parts:

- (1) To demonstrate that children are experts on their lives who can contribute valuable knowledge and unique insights, and
- (2) To address the awkward questions for a decolonised psychology in South Africa in response to the call for an African centered Psychology.

RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

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