



Curtin University

Centre for Human Rights Education Post Graduate Colloquium

4 AUGUST 2018: Curtin University, Building 211.223



WELCOME

...to the Centre for Human Rights Education's annual post-grad colloquium. We will hear from Curtin post-graduate students whose presentations will focus on elements of their PhD research. This is a valuable opportunity for students to present their work to their peers, and to discuss topics of interest in a collegial environment.

Presentations at university research colloquia are important opportunities to develop scholarship and critical friendships. There will also be a panel presentation by CHRE researchers, and time provided for feedback.

Programme:

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| 9:00am | Refreshments (CAS Foyer)
then move to Room 211.223 for presentations |
| 9:30am | Welcome and introductions - Yirga Woldeyes (MC)
and Baden Offord |
| 9:40am | Presentation 1 - Graham Hay |
| 10:00am | Presentation 2 - Misty Farquhar |
| 10:20am | Presentation 3 - Shoshana Rosenberg |
| 10:40am | Morning Tea |
| 11:15am | Presentation 4 - Rosemary Sayer and Renee Pettitt-Schipp |
| 11:55am | Presentation 5 - Elizabeth Lang |
| 12:15pm | Presentation 6 - Chemutai Glasheen |
| 12:35pm | Panel Discussion - Lisa Hartley, Caroline Fleay (CHRE) and Mary Anne Kenny (Murdoch Uni) |
| 1:00pm | Close |



Photo credits: Main image sourced from: <http://www.sievmemorial.com/>
Image of CAS by Adrian Lambert

Make tomorrow better.

CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

POST GRADUATE COLLOQUIUM 2018

Abstracts

Presentation 1

Graham Hay

Strong Artist Networks

Despite articles 22 and 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights asserting our entitlement to freely realise our "...cultural rights indispensable for ... dignity and the free development of [our] personality" and to "... participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts", there is very little applied research into how people automatically go about developing a sustainable culture.

As part of my PhD I am commencing a practice-led, autoethnography layered account analysis of the generation, transmission, and destruction of social, cultural, and symbolic capital within the digital and nondigital social networks of my creative practice and studio community. By doing so I claim for local artists themselves "the human right to represent and reinterpret one's personal and social experience" (Rolling, 2011). This is a call for the right of self-determination through creative expression, association, and self-description through research. Well informed autoethnography promises greater nuances than "objective" studies by others and is less naïve than ethnography in that it directly positions the researcher as an active agent in the field of research, being part research, pedagogy and political (Gannon, 2017). The artwork created is simultaneously a descriptor of, a response to, my digital and nondigital social networks. This is a strategic move against the emerging global political trend towards redesigning and planning cultural based purely upon economic objectives: the "Creative City" or "Creative Economy" (Sánchez Belando, 2017).

Presentation 2

Misty Farquhar

Living Outside the Binary in Australia

Human rights discourse centres around freedom and equality, but these ideas only become truly valuable when paired with social recognition. While there has recently been increased recognition of same-gender attracted people, people who do not fit into a socially normative binary definition of sexuality / gender have not reached the same level of recognition. As such, they can be more vulnerable to systemic and individual victimisation than those who fit within more binary models.

Most queer research efforts focus on same-gender attracted / binary transgender people, with bisexual / non-binary people either categorised within these groups or completely excluded. As a result, very little specific sub-group research is available, perpetuating the issue of invisibility commonly faced by these groups. Yet there is evidence to suggest that this population may be larger than the same-gender attracted / binary transgender population combined.

My research aims to make the experiences of bisexual / non-binary people in Australia visible, particularly in relation to social recognition. Data has been collected from across Australia through surveys and face-to-face interviews.

Note: "Bisexual" and "non-binary" are used as umbrella terms for people who do not fit into a socially normative binary definition of sexuality / gender.

Presentation 3

Shoshana Rosenberg

Gender and Sexually Diverse Jewish People in the Australian Diaspora: A Project Outline

Judaism and gender/sexual diversity (GASD) have far-reaching sociohistorical connections. From a time when the term "Jewish" was considered interchangeable with "Queer", through the establishment of non-normative gender roles within Jewish culture, to the present day Jewish visibility and participation in the LGBT+ community. Despite GASD Jewish people's continual presence in communities across the world, and their significant visibility within other Western cultures such as the United States, little is known about the GASD Jewish community in Australia. The broadest-reaching survey on the Jewish community in the country, Gen17, did not collect any significant statistics on gender and/or sexual diversity within the community. This raises a host of questions about who self-excluded or self-censored while participating in the survey; the amount of respondents was ultimately relatively small, and potentially very specific, part of the overall Jewish population. My prospective study will focus on exploring Australian Jewish people's experiences of being gender and/or sexually diverse, and this paper will provide further background on the topic and the forthcoming study's methodology.

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Presentation 4

Rosemary Sayer and Renee Pettitt-Schipp

Mapping from the Margins: stories that help us find our way home

In this presentation, writers Rosemary Sayer and Renee Pettitt-Schipp will take you on a journey beyond Island-Australia. Blurring our notions of our insular nation, Sayer and Pettitt-Schipp will use their research into oral histories and story-telling to paint rich and complex images of what it means to be an 'Australian', sharing the words of islanders, migrants, refugees and Australians with complex matrixes of 'home', inviting the audience in to a richer vision of national identity and what it means to belong.

Presentation 5

Elizabeth Lang

Conceptualising Domestic and Family Violence in the Frame of Collectivist Cultures

This research project is a qualitative study that aims to explore the notion of 'domestic and family violence' from the lens of collectivist cultural experiences and understanding. The term collectivist culture is used as an overarching concept referring to culturally and linguistically diverse, non-English speaking, refugee and immigrant background communities in Australia. Central to this is the exploration of the definition of 'family' and how its very conceptualisation impacts on the understanding of what constitutes

'domestic and family violence' in an Australian legal and socio-cultural context. The very parameters placed around the definition of domestic and family violence impacts on the lives of family members who may be experiencing abuse and violence within the family context but whose experiences may not be fully captured. This is due to the fact that the definition of family is largely reflective of family compositions of white Anglo-Saxon families, which does not take into account diverse family structures of communities living in Australia from collectivist cultures.

Australia's legal definition of 'family' and 'domestic and family violence' has implications for the types and the approaches used within the full range of services available to respond to individuals and families. Australia's legal and socio-cultural articulation and understanding of 'family' and hence what constitutes domestic and family violence leaves some communities in Australia at a disadvantage due to the fact that interventions and services are designed from frameworks that do not take into account the diversity of family structures that exist in collectivist cultures. The research will also interrogate prevailing frameworks (such as Duluth) that have dominated domestic and family violence discourse in Australia and how these frameworks provide practitioners with a limited understanding of the ways in which families may experience violence and abuse, therefore ignoring the needs of clients whose experiences are not fully captured or understood through these frameworks.

Presentation 6

Chemutai Glasheen

Rights through stories

James Dawes argues that at the core of human rights work is storytelling because storytelling is essential to how we come to be who we are. Stories make us aware of the dignity of others by giving us access into their shoes which is essential for the realisation of justice. The literature in the field seeks to interrogate the foundational concepts on human rights and literary discourses and how they relate to one another. In seeking to answer the question on how fiction is instrumental in raising awareness about human rights among young adults, I create a series of human rights themed short stories as part of my creative response to the question. I will present excerpts from my stories.

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About the presenters

Graham Hay

Graham has two decades experience in a dozen countries as a paper clay sculptor and independent educator. He co-led the first international symposium (Hungary, 2004), first Nordic (2007), first US conference (Seattle, 2009) and symposium (Harvard, 2015) as well as written over a dozen journal articles. Graham has participated in over 130 exhibitions, including seven biennale: the most recent being during the 2017 Venice Biennale. Despite giving 300 workshops in a dozen countries, he stays grounded running community classes in Robertson park Artists Studio, in Northbridge.

Seeking inspiration? Visit www.grahamhay.com.au

Misty Farquhar

Misty is a passionate researcher, educator, and advocate for inclusion.

Misty has over 10 years of leadership experience in community and organisational development across sectors, and is currently working toward a PhD at the Curtin University Centre for Human Rights Education exploring how people living outside binary ideas of sexuality / gender experience recognition in Australia.

Misty has ongoing involvement with a number of not-for-profits, and is also a presenter on RTRfm's All Things Queer program.

Shoshana Rosenberg

Shoshana is a Sexologist and researcher currently working with CERIPH and SiREN on a variety of Public Health topics. She is the recipient of the 2017 Rosemary Coates Sexology Award, and has published papers on her conception of queer people's experiences of Coming In, trans women's experiences of intimacy while undergoing hormone therapy, and theoretical perspectives on Jewish musical production. Her research interests include sexuality, gender,

Queer Theory, Jewish Studies and Musicology.

Rosemary Sayer

Rosemary is a creative non-fiction writer and former journalist currently undertaking a PhD in life writing and human rights at Curtin University. She has written three non-fiction books and her most recent book 'More to the story – conversations with refugees' was published in 2015. Her research interests are life writing, refugees and the power of personal stories. Rosemary has lived and worked throughout Asia and Australia and has lectured and tutored in refugee rights at the Centre for Human Rights Education at Curtin University. She is a passionate advocate for the rights of refugees and asylum seekers.

Renee Pettitt-Schipp

Renee is an award winning writer and educator who lived in the Indian Ocean Territories from 2011 until 2014. Renee's work with asylum seekers in detention on Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, inspired her first collection of poetry, 'The Sky Runs Right Through Us'. This manuscript was shortlisted for the inaugural Dorothy Hewett manuscript prize in 2015, and was released with UWA Publishing in February 2018. Renee is currently writing a creative non-fiction thesis about her experiences in the Indian Ocean Territories as part of her doctoral studies at Curtin University.

Elizabeth Lang

Elizabeth Lang is a passionate human rights advocate and has presented on a number of platforms, nationally and internationally including at the UNHCR NGO consultations Switzerland in June 2016. Originally from South Sudan, she arrived in Australia on the humanitarian visa with her family in

1998 after spending four years in Egypt. As the Founder and CEO of Diversity Focus, Elizabeth provides diversity consulting and training on a range of topics and modules to the welfare, health and legal sectors. In line with her interest in domestic and family violence education, she developed a module titled 'Understanding Domestic and Family Violence in Cross-Cultural Contexts' which she presents to organisations in the human services sector. Elizabeth is also a Sessional Academic at Curtin University and has taught a range of multidisciplinary units with the School of Occupational Therapy and Social Work since 2015. She serves on the board of the Organisation of African Communities (OAC) in WA as the Vice President (Operations), is the WA representative for the Federation of Ethnic Communities Council Australia (FECCA) Women's Committee and recently joined the national committee of the Australian Refugee Action Network (ARAN) to further her advocacy efforts on refugee issues.

Chemutai Glasheen

Chemutai Glasheen is a PhD candidate at Curtin University.

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