

# POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM V PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY 6 AUGUST 2021  
ST MARGARET'S COLLEGE  
333 LEITH STREET, DUNEDIN

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*Te Taura Takata/ Sociology, Gender Studies and Criminology*  
*Āhua ā iwi/ Social and Community Work*

Te Taura Takata / Sociology, Gender Studies and Criminology

Āhua ā iwi / Social & Community Work

# **POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM V**

St Margaret's College, 6 August 2021

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Postgraduate Symposium Proceedings V.

# **POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM V PROCEEDINGS**

Symposium Programme

Presenters and Abstracts

Current and Recently Graduated Students

# Symposium Programme

*Join us for presentations with intermittent refreshment breaks throughout the day.*

*Research Presentations are 15 minutes, followed by 5 minutes for audience feedback.*

*3-Minute Thesis Presentations are followed by 5 minutes for audience feedback.*

*If you need to step out, and when you return, please do so between presentations.*

*Please mute your phone.*

**9:15** **Mihi Whakatau** Shayne Walker

**Samoan Siva** led by Tahere T Siisilafia-Mau

**9:35** **Keynote Address** Professor Anne-Marie Brady -

‘How New Zealand academics can influence policy, and why they should’

**Chair** Joshua James

**10:15-10:45—Morning tea in the Dining Room**

## **Research Presentations**

**Chair** Dr Marissa Kaloga

**10:45** Sandhiya Sivanjali Gounder, ‘Fijian Government Reforms and their Implications - for National Unity’ (Ph.D Sociology)

**11:05** Joshua James, ‘Queer Radical Right: Constructing the Paradox’ (Ph.D Gender Studies)

**11:25** Gihani De Silva, ‘Qualitative Crystallisation: A Radical Way of Knowing?’ (Ph.D Religion & Social Anthropology)

**11:45-11:50—Quick break in the Valentine Common Room**

## **Research Presentations**

**Chair** Kirsten Gibson

**11:50** Cassandra Joseph, ‘On Being a Tomboy: Preliminary Findings’ (Ph.D Gender Studies)

**12:10** Charlotte Bruce Kells, ‘Analysing the “Mother” Identity Through Pregnancy, Childbirth & the Postpartum Period’ (Ph.D Gender Studies)

**12:30-1:30—Lunch in the Dining Room**

### **3-Minute Thesis Presentations**

**Chair** Professor Hugh Campbell

- 1:30** Annaliese Boyd, 'Leaving Home & Coming Out: Identity Construction and Alternative Kinships among Queer Female Tertiary Students' (Hons Sociology)
- 1:40** Melissa Carey, "'Got your mother in a whirl. She's not sure if you're a boy or a girl..." – How David Bowie Influenced Understandings of Masculinity in his Young Fans' (MA Gender Studies)
- 1:50** Sophie Dix, 'Understanding the Gendered Relations within Agriculture Science in New Zealand' (Hons Gender Studies)
- 2:00** Jordan Dougherty, 'The Location of Gender in Feminist Theories of Sexual Violence and Sexual Violence Prevention' (Hons Gender Studies)

### **2:10-2:15—Quick break in the Valentine Common Room**

### **3-Minute Thesis Presentations**

**Chair** Professor Chris Brickell

- 2:15** Oscar Francis, "'Beyond the Vanishing Point of Moral Visibility": The Affective Elements of Authoritarian Masculinity in Modern Context' (Hons Gender Studies)
- 2:25** Emily Jagoutz, 'The MEprogram and Me' (Hons Sociology)
- 2:35** Rowan Simmons, 'Investigating Masculinity's Influence on Transgender Expression Through Clothing' (Hons Gender Studies)

### **2:45-3:00—Afternoon Tea in the Dining Room**

### **Research Presentations**

**Chair** Associate Professor Anita Gibbs

- 3:00** Romulo F. Nieva Jr, 'Childbearing Behind Bars: The Experience of Filipino Pregnant Prisoners' (Ph.D Sociology)
- 3:20** Peyton Bond 'Workplace Experiences of Indoor Sex Workers in Aotearoa New Zealand' (Ph.D Gender Studies)
- 3:40** Nathan Jaquiere, 'Stabilising Factors for Young People journeying out of the "Care System"' (Ph.D Social Work)

### **4:00-4:30—Closing drinks in the Valentine Common Room**

Join us as we reflect on the day's presentations and give thanks to presenters, chairs, supervisors, organisers and our hosts at St Margaret's College. Cash bar with Eftpos available, and free nibbles.



**Professor Anne-Marie Brady**

Following her nomination by SGSC and SCW postgraduate students, the Postgraduate Committee invited Professor Brady to give the Keynote Address for Postgraduate Symposium V. Professor Brady is a specialist of Chinese politics (domestic politics and foreign policy), polar politics, China-Pacific politics, and New Zealand foreign policy. She is a fluent Mandarin Chinese speaker. She is founding and executive editor of *The Polar Journal* (Taylor and Francis Publishers). She has published ten books and over fifty scholarly papers. She has written op eds for the *New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Australian*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Financial Times*, among others.

In addition to her duties at the University of Canterbury, Professor Brady holds a number of honorary positions. She is a Global Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Centre in Washington DC and a Senior Fellow at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute. In 2014 she was appointed to a two-year term on the World Economic Forum's Global Action Council on the Arctic. She is an advisor to the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China (IPAC).

Professor Brady's recent books include *Marketing Dictatorship: Propaganda and Thought Work in Contemporary China* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2008), *China's Thought Management* (Routledge, 2012), *The Emerging Politics of Antarctica* (Routledge, 2013), *China as a Polar Great Power* (Cambridge University Press and Wilson Press, 2017), and *Small States and the Changing Global Order: New Zealand Faces the Future* (Springer, 2019).

## Keynote Address

### **How New Zealand academics can influence policy, and why they should**

Professor Anne-Marie Brady

The critic and conscience role of the academic is written in to the guiding legal documents of New Zealand universities, the Education and Training Act (2020). Academics have an important role in a modern democracy, offering informed commentary, the ability to conduct independent, in-depth research on policy areas, and providing new ways of thinking to deal with complex issues.

Yet New Zealand scientists and social scientists are under increasing pressure from corporations and even foreign governments to avoid raising uncomfortable truths. And New Zealand universities, who are dependent on external funding to balance the books, neither champion nor promote academic freedom. In some cases, universities appear to be putting limits on academic freedom and pressuring academics not to rock the boat. This talk discusses why our work as public intellectuals is so crucial, and the ways in which New Zealand academics can use their expertise to help shape national and local policy.



**Sandhiya Sivanjali Gounder**

Sandhiya Gounder is from Fiji. She is a PhD candidate in Sociology at the University of Otago. Sandhiya holds a Master of Arts degree in Governance and Public Policy from the University of Fiji where she has also been a Lecturer in Social Science since 2009.

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## **Fijian Government reforms and their implications for national unity**

Sandhiya Gounder

In 2006, Frank Bainimarama executed Fiji's fourth coup. As the then commander of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF), Bainimarama believed that the military had a role to unify Fijians many of whom have experienced ethnic discrimination, inequality and corrupt practices. Bainimarama went on to become the democratically elected Prime Minister in 2014. He was re-elected in 2018 and claims that his government is continuing the process of dismantling discriminatory and ethnic based policies through major political and socio-economic reforms in the name of achieving national unity.

This qualitative study focusses on the constitutional, institutional and electoral reforms in Fiji since 2006 and their implications for national unity in Fiji. The study explores if these reforms have yielded positive changes and contribute to facilitating national unity amongst Fijians. Online interviews were used to collect data from respondents who are politicians, constitutional lawyers, academics, community leaders and ordinary citizens. Letters to the editor and opinion pieces from the two major newspapers from 2015 to 2021 were also utilized to collect secondary data sources for the study.

**Keywords:** Government reforms, national unity, constitution, electoral system, national identity



**Joshua James**

Kia ora, my name is Joshua James, a PhD candidate investigating the support for radical right political organisations from queer communities. Other research interests include queer political behaviour, the relationship between the queer body and the state, and New Zealand politics (including constitutional questions). I come from a small town north of Tāmaki Makaurau called Parakai, but now call Ōtepoti home. Outside of academia, you can find me near the ocean with coffee, listening to emo revival hits or camp musicals.

<b>Qualification:</b>	Ph.D candidate
<b>Programme:</b>	Gender Studies
<b>Supervisors:</b>	Professor Chris Brickell and Professor Janine Hayward
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## Queer Radical Right: Constructing the paradox

Joshua James

We have seen a significant increase of support for the radical right in recent years, not seen since before World War Two. Fuelled by politicians in Hungary, Poland, Brazil, and the United States of America, amongst others, radical right groups have cemented themselves in the political landscape. The radical right argue for a preservation (in some occasions, supremacy) of western culture, rally against refugees and immigrants, and legislate against the bodily autonomy of women.

The radical right broadly opposes queer rights: the position varies from open hatred of queer people, to thinking that being queer is a hedonistic lifestyle, antithetical to the family values that they seek to create and preserve. Despite this, there is significant support for the radical right from queer people. Herein lies the paradox of my research: queer people support the radical right even when the radical right does not support them.

This presentation will give an overview of the early stages of my research, including establishing what constitutes the radical right, their position on queer people, queer support for the radical right, and some hypotheses on why this might be.

**Keywords:** Radical right, queer politics, white nationalism, queer political behaviour, gay Nazis, fascism.



**Nathan Jaquiere**

I am a PhD student in Social Work at the University of Otago, and I'm also employed by the University as Professional Practice Fellow in the Social and Community Work programme. I am a registered Social Worker with 20 years Social Work experience, having worked in a variety of Social Work roles ranging from social worker in schools, youth justice and care and protection, in both Government and NGO sectors.

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<b>Programme:</b>	Social and Community Work
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## **Stabilising Factors for Young People journeying out of the “Care System”**

Nathan Jaquierey

My doctoral thesis explores the perceptions and experiences of foster parents, social workers as well as seeking the voices and views of care experienced by young people. I aim to examine the elements, characteristics and attributes that contribute to perceived placement success for young people as they journey out of the foster care system. Why are some placements successful and some not? Why are some young people ‘in care’ better equipped and resourced as they transition (or journey) out of the state care system?

Influences that will be considered include: social work planning, legal advice, financial issues, access and contact with birth family, attachment/relationships between foster care household members and with their biological family, cultural and ethnic placement match, young person’s behaviour, historical factors, level of resourcing both formal and informal (family supports etc.), guardianship, number of previous placements, engagement with education and foster care training and further professional development. This research relies on an explorative qualitative methodology, where semi structured interviews will inform each case study.

At this particular time history our child protection service Oranga Tamariki, the Ministry for Children Otago are experiencing significant changes and restructure. It is hoped that this research will contribute to the development and formulation of social policy specifically in relation to transition to independence services as they continue to be developed in Aotearoa New Zealand.

**Keywords:** Social work, foster care, children, young people



**Cassandra Joseph**

After completing her BA (Hons) in English Literature, Cassandra became a sporadic backpacker, taking on an eclectic mix of jobs ranging from a presenter at a zoo, to a scriptwriter for a children's animated television show. She has also worked as an English & Creative Writing teacher, where the discrepancy in how children internalize gender norms fueled her interest in the depiction of tomboys and how they transcend conventional gender binaries. She hopes to pair her interests in gender representation, feminism, and philosophy of language in redefining the spectrum of femininity.

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## On being a tomboy: Preliminary findings

Cassandra Joseph

The word “tomboy” makes its debut appearance in sixteenth century England and was initially used to refer to rowdy males rather than boisterous females. In the 1590s to 1600s, its meaning then changed to signify “a girl who behaves like a spirited or boisterous boy; a wild romping girl; a hoyden,” which remains unchanged to this day. The shift in the definition of what it means to be a tomboy is highly symbolic of fluidity of meaning that the body of the tomboy takes on, and how its adept movement between gender binaries calls for a fresh perspective towards the conceptualisation of gender.

It is my aim to add to the scholarship available on the advent of tomboyism in a way that expands and exposes the binary constructs of femininity and masculinity. Tomboyism is a topic often overlooked as a “phase” in developing femininity, and I intend to give the concept more coherence in broadening the parameters of what it means to be a tomboy in adulthood. I intend to dismantle the constructs of binary gender embodiment by situating tomboyism and alternative embodiments of femininity on the genderqueer and non-binary spectrum. It is with hopes that by doing so, we would be provided with a view of gender that transcends the confines of the masculine/feminine binary.

**Keywords:** Tomboys, female masculinities, alternative femininities, queer theory, genderqueer & non-binary identities



**Charlotte Bruce Kells with her daughter, Imogen.**

Kia ora, my name is Charlotte Bruce Kells and I am currently working toward my PhD with the Department of Sociology, Gender Studies & Criminology at the University of Otago. My research interests have always been around the ways in which media impacts how people enact and engage with gender. However, since having my first child in 2020 I have become particularly interested in the study of motherhood and how the media contributes to cultural attitudes and beliefs of the ‘ideal’ mother. Outside of academics, I am passionate about finding practical ways we can better support mothers and parents as a community.

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## **Analysing the ‘Mother’ identity through pregnancy, childbirth & the postpartum period**

Charlotte Bruce Kells

This presentation summarises the findings of my Masters thesis, and then moves onto how these findings informed the research design of my PhD. The Masters research was a mixed- methods study, consisting of a narrative analysis of news articles related to Jacinda Ardern’s motherhood image over a 24 month period, and a survey of over 249 New Zealand women. Findings suggest that both the newspaper narratives and survey responses articulate western notions of the ‘ideal’ mother. However, survey results show that participants’ understanding of and interactions with media narratives of motherhood are complex and varied.

This complexity was evident through participants expressing frustration with the media’s representation of motherhood and them pushing back against the narratives in the data. Despite this frustration, their descriptions of the ‘ideal’ mother remained consistent with dominant cultural ideals of motherhood. The PhD research proposes to follow first time mothers’ journey through pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period, during which their existing identity transforms into the ‘motherhood’ identity.

The research will adopt a mixed methods approach, consisting of in-depth serial interviews with first-time mothers and a media content analysis. The connection between media representations and the motherhood identity will be analysed through the media content analysis. The mixed methods approach will allow for thorough analysis of participants journeys into motherhood, the social construction of the ‘ideal’ mother, and participants complex relationships with representations of motherhood in the media.

**Keywords:** Motherhood, gender, feminism, identity, media



**Annaliese Boyd**

Being inspired after completing my BA in Politics and Sociology in 2020, I decided to pursue my Honours degree in Sociology at the University of Otago. My dissertation explores the experiences of mobility and alternative kinship formation among queer tertiary students, and how the process of “home leaving-home making” impacts queer students’ journey of identity construction. I am deeply interested in social movement theory and issues of social progress, with a specific focus on environmental activism and queer politics. As a proud member of the UniCrew Volunteer group and the Politics Students' Association, I am passionate about promoting inclusivity, sustainability, and environmental preservation within the Dunedin and student community.

**Qualification:** BA Honours

**Programme:** Sociology

**Supervisor:** Dr John Wei

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## Leaving Home & Coming Out: Identity Construction and Alternative Kinships among Queer Female Tertiary Students

Annaliese Boyd

Understanding and disclosing one's non-heterosexual identity is traditionally a key aspect of a queer person's life experience. For those in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer + (LGBTQ+) community, this journey may feel incredibly isolating when one is not met with adequate social support. Therefore, when young queer people transition out of their family of origin social unit, it is not uncommon for them to seek a sense of community with other queer or queer-friendly individuals to access emotional and social support. The purpose of this research is to understand "coming out" (queer identity construction and disclosure) through the "moving out" process from home/whānau to a shared, student-based living environment for tertiary education.

I apply a qualitative approach, using in-depth and semi-structured interviews with self-identified queer female tertiary students aged 18 to 24 to explore the relationship between mobility, kinship formation, and identity construction among queer women studying at the University of Otago, Dunedin. Utilising Kath Weston's (1997) "chosen families" and John Wei's (2020) "stretched kinship" as conceptual frameworks for this research, I investigate the students' experiences of leaving home and making home to understand how queer students conceptualise and make sense of their support systems external to a familial kinship system.

**Keywords:** Leaving home, student mobility, alternative kinships, queer identity construction.



**Melissa Carey**

Kia ora, I'm Melissa. I love learning new things, as well all things books and Bowie, and so decided to combine these into a Master of Arts degree. I find the world of Gender Studies fascinating and for my research I am looking at the impact of Bowie's version of masculinity on his young fans. I have been very fortunate to be able to combine my personal and academic interests into what I hope is a meaningful piece of research.

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**"Got your mother in a whirl. She's not sure if you're a boy or a girl..."**  
**– How David Bowie influenced understandings of masculinity in his young fans.**

Melissa Carey

My research topic focuses on the influence of masculinities presented by David Bowie, and seeks to answer the question "What influence did the masculinities presented by David Bowie in the 1970s and 1980s have on the perceptions and understandings of masculinity on his young fans?" There has been a significant amount written about the way that Bowie problematized and performed gender, but little has been written of the ways in which this performance impacted the identities and perceptions of masculinity of his young fans.

Through my research, I aim to contribute to, and expand upon, this area by delving into the impact that the gender of David Bowie had on his most impressionable cohort of fans. In order to do this, I have conducted a series of interview with self-professed Bowie fans of varying degrees and ages.

I begin by outlining why David Bowie is important both to me personally, as well as the field of gender studies. I then go on to discuss the foundations of Kiwi masculinity, and the factors that combine to create the fascinating melting pot that is the classic Kiwi bloke. Finally, I will discuss the findings from the interview research conducted with Bowie fans who were growing up and coming into their own at the time when Bowie's playing with gender was, arguably, at its peak.



**Sophie Dix**

Hi, I'm Sophie. I grew up in small rural town south of Dunedin. This background formed an interest in rural communities. In 2020 I completed my BA in Gender Studies and Theatre. I have continued to explore different research interests, however, my main focus includes gender and sexuality in rural communities. I am also passionate about research and activism around sexual violence. Outside of studies I enjoy theatre, exercise and baking.

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## Understanding the gendered relations within agriculture science in New Zealand

Sophie Dix

Tensions within rural New Zealand have developed and changed throughout the decades. The central tension is between masculine centred rural society and those who grapple with this patriarchal environment. Scholars have explored the masculinity embedded into rural culture as agriculture and rural work is coded as manly. Although these scholars have explored this gendering, they have struggled to articulate the effects it had on New Zealand state. This dissertation will analyse the gendering present during High Modernity (1950/the 1960s) within agricultural textbooks. Using James C Scott, this dissertation will explore the legitimisation of science which was rational and caused science to be easily adopted by state and controlled.

Donna Haraway's theory of situated knowledges will further help examine and explore the inherent gendering embedded into science and objective knowledge. In applying a discourse analysis of agricultural textbooks, both visible and invisible gendering occurs. Themes include a strong presence of the masculine, as man is the given neutral. Women are hardly mentioned and if they are it is advertising for 'womenfolk' of a home journal with brightly coloured friendly articles.

Notably, the textbooks also imply gendering in the photos and the language used. These themes highlight the significance of gender in agriculture textbooks and agricultures influence during high modernity as this supposed legitimate science was adopted by the state. The state's control had rational science but along with rationality was gendering.

**Keywords:** Rural, masculinity, science, gender



**Jordan Dougherty**

Kia ora! My name is Jordan Dougherty and I finished my Bachelor of Arts in Gender Studies and Sociology in 2014. During my time in undergrad and after I volunteered at Rape Crisis Dunedin (now ŌCASA) where I developed my interest in sexual violence. After travelling I spent 2018 and 2019 working at Te Whare Tāwharau here at Otago, where I was lucky to learn more about this field and develop a greater understanding of how sexual violence impacts survivors. In my spare time I enjoy getting coffee with friends, watching TV and movies and reading queer love stories.

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## **The location of gender in feminist theories of sexual violence and sexual violence prevention**

Jordan Dougherty

The location of gender in feminist theories of sexual violence and sexual violence prevention can hold great influence over who is perceived to be impacted by sexual violence. A push for inclusion of men and diverse genders and sexualities in the sexual violence space from within and outside of feminism has seen some prevention and other public discourse of sexual violence adopt a gender-neutral mode of operation. This gender-neutral approach is at odds with the gendered nature of sexual violence reflected in statistics and poses the question, does omitting gender from discussions of sexual violence progress the discourse?

This dissertation is concerned with the tension of balancing inclusivity with the gendered nature of sexual violence and sexual violence prevention. This is explored first through the outlining of prominent feminist theories of sexual violence from the past 50 years such as Susan Brownmiller, Catherine MacKinnon and Nicola Gavey, putting them in conversation with each other and exploring the ways in which gender theorising is considered central to dismantling sexual violence. Secondly these gendered theories are complicated through calls for inclusion of men and diverse genders and sexualities. Then thirdly there is a focus on the history and development trajectory of sexual violence prevention, charting the different approaches, what they (claim to) achieve and whether they are considered effective.

**Keywords:** Sexual violence, gendered approach, sexual violence prevention



### **Oscar Francis**

Beyond researching authoritarian masculinity, Oscar is interested in journalism, along with sound and visual art. Other areas of academic interest include urbanism and economics. In his spare time, Oscar enjoys cycling and badminton.

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## **‘Beyond the vanishing point of moral visibility’: The affective elements of authoritarian masculinity in modern context**

Oscar Francis

Our present moment in time seems to be marked by both precarity and political polarisation. Increasingly, political rhetoric predicated upon calls for exclusion or violence against various out-groups seems to be, in the context of various western liberal democratic states, ascendent. While this tendency towards instrumental violence is by no means new, it does run the risk of emerging, as we have seen in recent years, as a more extreme, vitriolic, and violent mode of politics. The aim of this study is to understand how hegemonic masculinity is co-opted into mass movements towards authoritarian regimes, which are themselves predicated upon the logics of modernity in its various forms.

I will argue that the emergence of such authoritarian regimes, whether or not they co-opt the state, must be understood largely in terms of affect: Shared affinity, congealed around certain key signifiers, is the primary glue which binds such movements together, rather than any kind of consistent political, intellectual, ideological, or moral framework beyond a propensity for dichotomisation. A given individual's experience of felt precarity is likely to lead to a tendency towards authoritarian traits of submission, conventionalism and violence. Shifts towards these traits en-masse pose severe risks for the possibilities of sustainably peaceable and democratic modes of politics.

**Keywords:** Authoritarianism, affect theory, modernity, hegemonic masculinity, populism, far-right extremism



**Emily Jagoutz**

Emily is an Honours student in Sociology. Her research is concerned with menstrual literacy and the lack of programmes that engage with menstrual disorders. She engages heavily with the New Zealand made MEprogram, which is one of the few menstrual-specific education programs currently being run in the world that presents menstrual disorders such as endometriosis. Emily is very interested in the wide variety of menstrual perspectives and understandings in New Zealand, due to its multicultural population, and in future research hopes to highlight this. Outside of University, Emily is often outdoors doing which ever activity the season brings, from skiing to climbing.

<b>Qualification:</b>	BA Honours
<b>Programme:</b>	Sociology
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## **The MEprogram and me**

Emily Jagoutz

This project aims to take a holistic single case-study approach to describe the menstrual education and endometriosis program, and the development of an online version of the MEprogram. The program is offered in New Zealand schools, and was developed by Endometriosis New Zealand, a charity offering support and education about menstruation and endometriosis. By learning about menstruation, young people can become aware of atypical symptoms that could indicate conditions such as endometriosis. Endometriosis is a chronic condition in which endometrial-like tissue grows outside the uterus. It affects approximately 10%

There are very few existing programmes offering online menstrual education, making this programme a valuable addition. This case study is part of a larger programme of research investigating menstrual education. This research project has five components: 1) A systematic literature review to identify existing menstrual education programmes, 2) case study of the programme and development of the online version, 3) development of a protocol for evaluating the online programme, 4) trialling the evaluation protocol, and 5) discussing the brief trailing process.



### **Rowan Simmons**

Currently completing her Bachelor of Arts: Honours degree, Rowan combined her interest in transgender issues, masculinity, and fashion to investigate how these three topics intersect. Dunedin offers a unique melting pot of experiences that makes it the perfect place to live and research, making the five years Rowan has spent here some of her favourite so far. Outside the time spent at university, Rowan spends her time decompressing with bad television, Dungeons and Dragons, playing boardgames and TCGs.

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## **Investigating masculinity's influence on transgender expression through clothing**

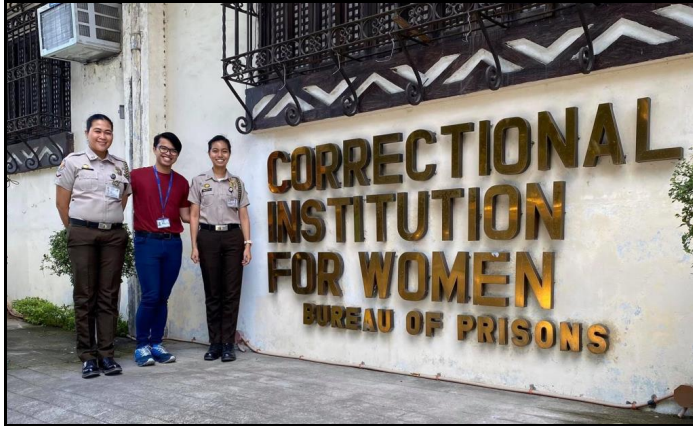
Rowan Simmons

The last few decades have presented revolutionary changes to the ways gender is perceived, from Second Wave pantsuits to drag queens. Even though transgender people are currently experiencing greater social visibility and acceptance, their specific needs and experiences are still vastly unrecognised in law, social planning, and academic research. It is this gap in the literature that I intend to supplement. Specifically, I investigated how gendered expectations and understandings of masculinity influenced trans- gender expression through clothing.

This investigation into trans fashion and the influence of masculinity involved recruiting ten transgender university students, conducting one hour long interviews discussing their understandings of gender, masculinity, and clothing. Ultimately, my dissertation will discuss established theories surrounding gender performance, hierarchies of masculinity, and the intragroup diversity experienced by transgender people. Interviewed participants indicated that clothing was a contentious issue, with passing, trans- visibility, and gender affirmation being recurrent themes in the discussions.

Ultimately, my research thus far has indicated that there is a gap in the literature surrounding how gender, masculinity, and fashion intersect for transgender people. This dissertation aims to fill that gap by continuing to investigate the experiences of trans people, with the goal of making these experiences visible.

**Keywords:** Transgender, fashion, masculinity, gender expression, gender performance



**Romulo F. Nieva Jr**

Roms is a public health researcher in the Philippines. He has a nursing and health sciences background. He worked for Zuellig Family Foundation in the Philippines as a policy research and advocacy associate prior to joining Otago doctoral programme. He led the public health and policy research projects on reproductive governance and family planning for marginalised women, adolescent reproductive health and HIV/AIDS. He is a hiking enthusiast.

**Qualification:** Ph.D candidate

**Programme:** Sociology

**Supervisors:** Dr Bryndl Hohmann-Marriott, Associate Professor  
Melanie Beres, Dr Fairleigh Gilmour

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## **Childbearing behind bars: The experience of Filipino pregnant prisoners**

Romulo F. Nieva Jr

Many women who enter prison usually come from the margins of society and socioeconomically disadvantaged background. They are mostly of childbearing age and mothers. Thus, they have complex and unique reproductive health needs. The prison reproductive health care in many countries is not a priority policy area; and is often constrained with limited resources particularly in low-income countries such as the Philippines. Despite an extensive literature on the sociology of reproductive wellbeing and pregnancy of marginalised women, the experience of pregnant prisoners is under-researched.

This article presents a qualitative, phenomenological interpretation of the pregnancy experience behind bars in the largest Philippine prison for women. The study was conducted in 2020 and involved semi-structured interviews with 18 female prisoners who were pregnant or had given birth in prison. Using sociological and criminological concepts, this study builds upon existing knowledge and highlights the institutional context of pregnancy experience of women in prison.

Through thematic analysis, the key findings of the study are clustered into three overarching themes, namely: (a) dislocation of identity b) sense of scarcity, c) and feeling of disempowerment. These themes embody the women's narratives of how their pregnancy and motherhood status appeared secondary to their 'prisoner identity', exacerbated by their experience of systemic scarcity and sense of powerlessness in prison. Imprisonment was the fulcrum on which the women's experiences of pregnancy were negotiated and balanced. The study also unpacks new data about how the women navigate the system to negotiate entitlements and address their reproductive health and pregnancy needs.

This research highlights the gaps in existing policy guidelines and structure to support their reproductive wellbeing needs. In this sense, the study aims to facilitate future inquiry and to be a vehicle for positive reform for incarcerated women with myriad of reproductive health needs.

**Keywords:** Incarceration, women, institutions, pregnancy



**Peyton Bond**

Kia ora. My name is Peyton and I am currently halfway through my PhD in Gender Studies. My thesis is focused on the workplace experience of indoor sex workers in Aotearoa New Zealand using feminist frameworks and methodologies. I love to read and generally cannot stop talking during movies and/or TV shows. I have a stack of books beside my bed that I desperately want to read but can't choose which one to start with, so instead I get stuck watching any number of deeply average television shows. I'm originally from the US, but Dunedin is home.

<b>Qualification:</b>	Ph.D candidate
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## Workplace experiences of indoor sex workers in Aotearoa New Zealand

Peyton Bond

The Prostitution Reform Act 2003 (PRA) decriminalised sex work in Aotearoa New Zealand and represents a best practice model for sex work legislation. Given the amount of time since the Act was passed, the sex work industry in Aotearoa New Zealand is an example of what the industry can look like unencumbered by criminalisation. The sex work workplace can be studied as just that – a workplace. In examining what factors may impact the sex work workplace in Aotearoa New Zealand, a theme that emerged was the existence (and consequences) of anti-fat bias in the industry.

This presentation discusses interview data from a 2020 project. The participants include 27 full-service sex workers, 1 agency manager, 1 professional dominatrix, and 1 former brothel receptionist. Of the 27 full-service sex workers, 13 had worked only in agencies or brothels, 3 had worked only independently, and 11 had worked both in agencies/brothels and independently.

An issue raised among a significant proportion of interviews was the experience of anti-fat bias in the sex work industry. The experience of anti-fat bias was not discussed in relation to a specifically targeted question. Rather, it was raised by participants while describing the wider culture in the sex worker industry, experiences switching between workplaces, or their own personal observations of certain agencies, brothels, and websites. This presentation details the experiences and observations of anti-fat bias by indoor sex workers in New Zealand.

**Keywords:** Workplace; fatphobia; sex work; decriminalisation; Prostitution Reform Act



**Gihani De Silva**

Gihani De Silva is a PhD candidate at the University of Otago. Her research focuses on the Sri Lankan Buddhist nuns and social empowerment. This study seeks to broaden scholarly understandings of female renunciant in the Theravada Buddhist tradition to show how they have been active and influentially occupy positions of religious leadership on par with their male counterparts. Before starting her PhD, she worked as a Senior Lecturer in Sociology at the Department of Social Sciences, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. She has completed her BA and MPhil in Sociology from the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

<b>Qualification:</b>	Ph.D Candidate
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## Qualitative Crystallisation: A radical way of knowing?

Gihani De Silva

Similar to Laura Ellingson, I was drawn to crystallisation by necessity (Ellingson, 2009: xi). My present research on Buddhist nuns in Sri Lanka is based on the metaphor of crystallisation, which will be discussed in this paper. It required a holistic methodological approach to the study of the lives of Buddhist nuns' groups (heterogeneous), who strive and thrive within a system that excluded them in certain ways. At first glance, Buddhist nuns appeared to be in a precarious position, yet they are flourishing in Sri Lanka. As a result, eliciting the position of Buddhist nuns within the religious world was necessary in order to enquire into the multiple discourses in which they interact and construct themselves. In terms of evaluating Buddhist nuns and their work, there is a very contradictory approach that has resulted in a crisis of representation.

The metaphor of crystallisation provides a methodical way to alternate and encounter this representation crisis. It offers a language for describing and incorporating Buddhist nuns' diverse forms of representations. Multidimensional thinking emerged in the current study, as each genre offers a unique perspective on Buddhist nuns. For example, one genre began with a narrative (becoming a fully ordained *bhikkhuni*: a controversial act to do in Sri Lanka) that resembled many stories of that particular group and evolved into ethnographic account (including artistic inquiry: poetry, preaching performance) on the celebrations of processions in a *vinaya* centric approach. In this sense, qualitative crystallisation enabled the inclusion of a continuum of qualitative techniques. It culminated in a crystallised account that was then integrated into a coherent text.

**Keywords:** Crystallisation, Buddhist nuns, metaphor, precarious position, artistic inquiry, genre.



# **CURRENT AND RECENTLY GRADUATED STUDENTS**

Te Taura Takata / Sociology, Gender Studies and Criminology

Āhua ā iwi / Social & Community Work



### **Supriya Koipurathu Rajappan**

Supriya is a PhD student in Sociology. Originally from India, Supriya immigrated to New Zealand in 2015. She holds a Bachelor and Master degree in Social Work from India. Prior to her immigration to New Zealand, she worked as a social worker in a community project for children's health rights in India. Her research interests include migration, ethnicity and adolescent issues, and her research is entitled 'Do you speak Hindi? The experiences of Indian students in New Zealand?'. In her spare time, she enjoys teaching yoga and go for trekking.

<b>Qualification:</b>	Ph.D candidate
<b>Programme:</b>	Sociology
<b>Supervisors:</b>	Associate Professor Patrick Vakaoti and Dr Bryndl Hohmann-Marriott
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## **Cultural stereotypes and bullying: The experiences of Indian migrant adolescent students in New Zealand**

Supriya Koipurathu Rajappan

Indians comprise the second large ethnic migrant population in New Zealand, and nearly 20% of the total Indian population are under 15 years old. Bullying is one of the major challenges Indian adolescent students are experiencing in schools. The major aims of the study are to explore the bullying experiences of Indian high school students, the risk and protective factors of bullying and the student's understanding on school bullying intervention programs. By adopting a mixed-methods approach, the study employed a survey and three focus group discussions to collect data from the Indian adolescent students from Indian associations and religious organizations in New Zealand.

The preliminary results show that the Indian students are experiencing bullying victimization and witnessing bullying weekly. Students identified cultural stereotypes as one of the major reasons for bullying. This research seeks to navigate the students in the school environment, thereby ensuring the students' right to inclusive schools.

**Keywords:** Bullying, victimisation, Indian adolescents, mixed-methods



**Deanna Teremoana**

My interest in researching TikTok began in 2020 during New Zealand's COVID-19 lockdown. I appreciated the personalized-feed aspect that the algorithm offered, allowing me to find a variety of videos that catered to my interests ranging from video games to day-in-the-life vlogs. I soon realized that the algorithm was suppressing videos by BIPOC (black, indigenous, and people of colour) content creators for unknown reasons, thus sparking the topic for my research project.

<b>Qualification:</b>	BA Honours
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## **Presenting the Indigenous self online: Observing how Māori content creators express their indigeneity on TikTok**

Deanna Teremoana

My dissertation is concerned with how TikTok both enables and limits the representation of Indigenous communities, specifically how Māori content creators challenge such limits to freely express their Indigenous identity. First established by Māori content creators, the Indigenous TikTok community known as 'Indigenous Alliance' is now comprised of twenty-six members of Indigenous descent worldwide. Indigenous Alliance utilises a collaborative approach for amplifying their culture, history and social issues pertaining to Indigenous groups, reflecting the value in using social media as a tool for activism and education.

TikTok experienced a surge in popularity following the impact of COVID-19, transforming how people socialised through micro-videos. Social justice movements took precedence on the platform mid-2020, with supporters of the Black Lives Matter movement taking advantage of the micro-video system to quickly capture the attention of users. The Movement encouraged viewers use their privilege to listen and amplify the voices of those involved in the promoting the cause. The outreach of the Black Lives Matter movement captured attention from international audiences, encouraging Indigenous communities to share their stories.

Despite this widespread involvement, contestation from some users and the platform's algorithm may limit Tik Tok's effectiveness as a place for freedom of non-white identity expression, suppressing the creator empowerment that the platform boasts. I shall conduct a thematic content analysis of videos created by Māori content creators in Indigenous Alliance to identify the techniques they use to challenge TikTok's bias towards white communities, and how useful these techniques are in expressing their Māori identity.

**Keywords:** TikTok, Māori identity, social media, indigeneity, collective identity

**Mariam Abdul-Dayyem** (PhD in Sociology): ‘Everyday resilience: How the journey of internet usage of Palestinians in the West Bank affect and reflect their political subjectivity?’ (recently submitted)

**Lorna Allott** (Master of Social Work): ‘What are the experiences of front-line social work practitioners in the NGO sector, working within care and protection policy regarding strengths base?’

**Sonja Bohn** (PhD in Sociology): ‘Alternate futures: the tourism industry and climate change’

**Helen Bollinger** (MA in Gender Studies): ‘Film families and friends; Creative networks in a precarious industry’ (recently submitted)

**Charlotte Bruce Kells** (MA in Gender Studies): ‘JacindaBabyMania’: Media representations and women’s perspectives of the ‘working mother’ in Aotearoa New Zealand (recently submitted)

**Melissa Carey** (MA in Gender Studies): ‘How the forms of masculinity portrayed by David Bowie impacted and influenced developing masculinities, and perceptions of masculinity, of both teenage boys and grown men during the 1970s and 1980s’

**Mikayla Cahill** (Masters by coursework in Gender Studies): ‘Intersex Education: Are sex educators knowledgeable about issues surrounding intersex conditions?’ (recently submitted)

**Suddhabrata Deb Roy** (PhD in Sociology): ‘Reorienting Marxist and Feminist Theory in Neo-Liberal India’

**Gihani De Silva** (PhD in Religious Studies): ‘Recognising the unrecognised *kalyānamitra*: Counsellor Buddhist nuns in Sri Lanka’

**Louisa Choe** (PhD in Sociology): ‘Do the poor pay more? Young people’s experiences with housing instability’ (recently submitted)

**Simon Clay** (PhD in Gender Studies): ‘Wild self-care: The relationship between self-care and ‘risky’ health-related practices among gay men’

**Kerri Cleaver** (PhD in Children’s Issues): ‘Ngāi Tahu care leaver experiences: Culture and identity’

**Katharine Cresswell Riol** (PhD in Sociology): ‘Right to food, and hunger in New Zealand’

**Trixie Croad** (MA in Sociology): ‘Understanding the social and political dynamics of food waste streams in the food production industry in New Zealand’

**Elena Dibrova** (PhD in Politics): ‘You don’t belong here: homophobia as a part of the national identity in modern Russia’

**Katharina Doebling** (PhD in Science Communication): ‘A New Zealand register of on-land restoration actions to improve water quality: a tool to support sustainable management practices’

**Katelyn Ferguson** (PhD in Sociology): ‘Cultural safety for nurses in a diversifying New Zealand’

**Luke Fitzmaurice** (PhD in Children’s Issues): ‘Young people’s involvement in the overhaul of New Zealand’s child welfare system (2015-2017)’

**Kakau Foliaki** (PhD in Geography): ‘Unpacking and understanding behavioural anomalies in energy efficiency: The case of Tonga’

**Giverny Forbes** (MSc in Environmental Science): ‘Human-leopard seal interactions in New Zealand’

**Kirsten Gibson** (PhD in Gender Studies): ‘Understanding women’s post-prison experiences in Aotearoa New Zealand’

**Stephen Glassey** (PhD in Sociology): ‘Developing an evidence-based model to protect companion animals from disaster, based on the experiences of recent emergencies in New Zealand in 2010’

**Anna Hawkes** (MA in Psychology): ‘The impact and effectiveness of GPS monitoring of offenders’

**Hannah Herchenbach** (PhD in Gender Studies): ‘Beyond the Dunedin sound: South Island music 1971-2015’

**Joshua James** (MA in Gender Studies): ‘Understanding the “pink” vote in Aotearoa’ (Recently submitted)

**Ola Kattoura** (PhD in Social and Community Work): ‘Arab battered women in Israel: How social and political contexts shape their lives’ (recently submitted)

**Kirsten Koch** (MA in Sociology): 'Clothing upcycling in Otago (Ōtākou) and the problem of fast fashion' (recently submitted)

**Rudi Kresna** (PhD in Sociology): 'Developing economic, social and environmental responsive policies for sustainability of dairy farming in Indonesia'

**Damon Lillis** (Coursework MA in Sociology): 'The lived experience of Rugby World Cup 2019: How New Zealanders consume and relate to their 'national game'' (recently submitted)

**Kirsty McKenzie** (Master of Social Work): 'Ripple effect of the Moana House programme: Perspectives of wahine whānau members'

**Bell Murphy** (PhD in Gender Studies): 'Empowerment beyond the neoliberal self: An autoethnography of a feminist self-defence teacher in Aotearoa'

**Adriu Naduva** (PhD in Sociology): 'CSA reporting legislation among Pacific countries'

**Angella Ndaka** (PhD in Sociology): 'Farmers' participation in improving the effectiveness of fertilizer subsidies value-chain policies in development Countries'

**Samwel Oando** (PhD in Peace and Conflict studies): 'Engendered conflict transformation: Space for African women in tackling violent extremism in Kenya'

**Vanessa Oatley** (PhD in Social and Community Work): 'Beyond competence: Reimagining the Pākehā Social Worker'

**Myunik Panthi** (PhD in Sociology): 'Leisure activities in elderly care centres: Experiences, perception and impact of leisure activities on their quality of life' (Recently submitted)

**Nishanthi Perera** (PhD in Sociology): 'Socio-demographic characteristics and sexual health knowledge of International University students in New Zealand'

**Kerryn Rhodes** (Coursework MA in Gender Studies): 'Judges challenges to rape myths: A thematic analysis of rape myths in the sentencing notes of New Zealand rape cases' (Recently submitted)

**Lily Kay Ross** (PhD in Gender Studies): 'The Survivor Imperative: An autoethnography of secondary victimisation after sexual violence' (graduated)

**Miguel Sanchez** (Coursework MA in Sociology): 'Coffee Cups and Capitalism'

**Laura Schilperoort** (PhD in Sociology): 'Practising gender equality: how church-going couples understand and experience egalitarianism'

**Dirk Schrubba** (PhD in Anthropology): 'Islamic veganism: Religious and spiritual attitudes of Muslims interested in veganism and their motivations for lifestyle change'

**Swati Shah** (PhD in Geography): 'Is commercial surrogacy a "win-win" situation in the Indian context?' (recently submitted)

**Rachel Shaw** (MA in Gender Studies): 'Lesbian Life in Aotearoa during the 1970s and 1980s: An oral history'

**Tahere Siisiialafia** (PhD in Sociology): 'Reflections on engaging youth in qualitative research via online methods'

**Jocelyn Springthorpe** (Doctor of Education): 'Does a short term stay in a residential setting make a difference for children who have experienced complex trauma in their lives?'

**Laura Starling** (MA in Sociology): 'Social media influencers in neoliberal networked publics and their presentation of contraceptive apps' (Recently submitted)

**Kayla Stewart** (PhD in Sociology): 'Examining the prevalence of sexual violence at a New Zealand university and rethinking sexual violence statistics'

**Peter Straghan** (PhD in Linguistics): 'Interventionist expressive writing as a mechanism for change among incarcerated offenders in New Zealand'

**Rachel Tombs** (MA in History): 'An end to 'Spousal Immunity': Rape law reform in 1980's New Zealand'

**Abbigale Virens** (PhD in Sociology): 'Exploring urban foraging in Dunedin/Otepoti'

## NOTES

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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



*Front and back cover photos courtesy Justine B Marshall*