

Te Taura Takata
*Sociology, Gender
Studies & Criminology*

Āhua ā iwi
*Social & Community
Work*

Postgraduate Symposium IV Proceedings

Friday 7 August 2020

St Margaret's College, 333 Leith St.

Te Taura Takata / Sociology, Gender Studies and Criminology
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POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM IV

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Postgraduate Symposium Proceedings IV.

POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM IV

PROCEEDINGS

2020 Presenters and Abstracts
Current and Recently Graduated Students



Peyton Bond

I am originally from Bedford, Virginia, a rural town in the US. I attended the University of Virginia for undergrad and studied Leadership & Public Policy and English literature. After graduating in 2016, I moved to Australia and then to New Zealand, where I completed a Master of Politics in early 2019 before beginning a PhD in November 2019. I am deeply interested in people, politics, issues of social justice and progress, and own approximately 50 house plants. I feel extremely lucky to be able to be working on what I'm working on and have had the pleasure to meet extraordinary people while doing so.

Qualification: PhD

Programme: Gender Studies

Supervisors: Dr Fairleigh Gilmour & Professor Janine Hayward

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Indoor Sex Work in New Zealand: What impacts the workplace?

Peyton Bond

This project researches factors that impact on the workplace experience of sex workers (SW). It is a case study of SW workplaces in Aotearoa New Zealand. New Zealand was chosen as the focus due to its length of experience with decriminalisation of the sex work industry; the Prostitution Reform Act of 2003 made it the first country to decriminalise sex work. In other countries, studies about sex work grapple with issues of legality and criminalisation. In New Zealand, there is space to look into how SWs experience their workplace as a place of work. This research uses feminist standpoint theories as the framework to assess the workplace. That is, the findings are formed via qualitative interviews with those inside the sex industry, as their standpoint alone contains the knowledge of that experience. I situate myself throughout the research as an outsider to the sex work industry, although I acknowledge that as the researcher, I inevitably insert myself in the process. I formed my methodology from a combination of SW-written best practice ethics for SW research and feminist standpoint theories that seek to centre epistemological advantages of those in certain (historically, marginalised) social situations. The research includes in-depth interviews with sex workers in a number of locations across New Zealand. My interview questions are drawn from routine workplace assessments and adapted to suit my methodology. They focus on the wider labour market, workers' rights, job satisfaction, and perception of input/return. In order to adhere to standpoint theory as much as possible, I left the meaning of 'workplace' relatively undefined, and let the interpretation form during interviews. I plan to complete my fieldwork by 1 September 2020.

Keywords: Decriminalisation, workplace, sex work, labour market, input/return, feminist standpoint



Charlotte Bruce Kells

My research interests lie primarily in the ways we engage with media, and the influence this has on how we interact with and enact gender. In 2018, I completed my dissertation, looking at the role of romantic comedy films in normalising gender dynamics in dating relationships. I began my Masters in 2019, and my focus shifted to media representations of 'working mothers', and how these representations contribute to women's perceptions of motherhood in New Zealand. This interest in media and motherhood was compounded at the end of the same year, when I became pregnant with my first child. Inspired by my own experience as a pregnant woman, and now a mother, I hope to continue research in the area of motherhood and 'women's work' for further study.

Qualification: Masters by Thesis

Programme: Gender Studies

Supervisor: Dr Fairleigh Gilmour

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**'JacindaBabyMania':
Media representations and women's perspectives of the
'working mother' in Aotearoa New Zealand**

Charlotte Bruce Kells

In January 2018, Jacinda Ardern, New Zealand's third female Prime Minister, made history when she announced that she and her partner, Clarke Gayford, were expecting their first child. This child would make Ardern the second woman in history to give birth while holding elected office, and news coverage on both a national and global scale exploded. News media narratives are an accessible, popular and trusted medium where dominant cultural values and ideologies are portrayed to populations on a mass scale. As such, media narratives centred on the implications to widely held cultural beliefs around work and motherhood, as a result of Ardern being both a mother and Prime Minister, were quickly disseminated to the masses. This research is a mixed methods study, consisting of the narrative analysis of articles about Ardern as a mother over a 24-month period (August 2017 - July 2018), and a survey of over 200 New Zealand women. The narrative analysis identifies four primary narratives employed in news media articles about Ardern: 'Part-Time PM', 'Wonder Woman', 'Catalyst for Change', and 'Community Ownership'. The survey responses and relevant feminist literature are then used to discuss the identified narratives. They examine how women are interacting and engaging with these narratives, how they push back against them, and how overall they align with their perceptions of being a mother in paid employment in New Zealand.

Keywords: Media, motherhood, work, emotional labour



Mikayla Cahill

Tēnā koutou e hoa mā!
Ko Tararua te maunga.
Ko Ruamāhanga te awa.
Ko Takitimu te waka.
Ko Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa tōku iwi.
Ko Ngāti Moe tōku hapū.
Ko Papawai tōku marae.
Ko Mikayla tōku ingoa.

I started as an eager Health Sci in 2013. In the following years I dabbled in Anatomy but finished with a BA in Gender Studies minoring in Criminology. My background in both Anatomy and Gender Studies lead me to my main research interest: intersex rights. My research has one primary goal: to end medically unnecessary genital surgeries that are forced upon intersex bodies.

Qualification: Masters by Coursework

Programme: Gender Studies

Supervisor: Dr Lesley Procter

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Intersex Education: Are sex educators knowledgeable about issues surrounding intersex conditions?

Mikayla Cahill

Intersex is an umbrella term relating to people whose biological sex characteristics do not match the typical definition of either male or female. Historically, the term hermaphrodite was used to describe people who were a mixture of both male and female. While this term has been reclaimed by many intersex people, hermaphrodite was and often still is, used as a slur. Thus, the term intersex is often preferred. Intersex bodies have been systematically erased by medically unnecessary genital surgeries, which are often performed shortly after birth and without the total informed consent of the parents. These surgeries are highly invasive and ignore the bodily autonomy of the intersex individual. This forces intersex bodies into the strict binary assumption of both biological sex and gender. Because of this erasure, intersex people have been forgotten, despite their inclusion in the acronym LGBTQIA+.

The purpose of my research is to ensure that intersex rights are talked about in high school sex education. This will arm future parents of intersex children with the knowledge to refuse medically unnecessary genital surgeries. This will liberate intersex bodies and allow intersex people to exist without being forced into a binary gender or biological sex in which they feel their bodies do not belong. My dissertation will ask secondary school sex educators: how much they know about intersex and whether they feel the current curriculum is adequate in addressing intersex conditions.

Keywords: Intersex, intersex rights, sex education, biological sex, gender



Suddhabrata Deb Roy

Suddhabrata Deb Roy is a PhD Candidate in the Sociology, Gender Studies and Criminology Programme at the University of Otago. He received his MA from the University of Hyderabad in India. His primary research interests are the fields of Marxism, critical theory, social movements, gender, trade unions and political economy. He is also interested in culture, the environment, and science and technology studies. His time is mostly spent on exploring the 'communications' between his various research interests and writing. An electrical engineer by initial training, he has also worked as a union organiser, (not so good) novelist and content writer in the past.

Qualification: PhD

Programme: Sociology

Supervisors: Associate Professor Marcelle Dawson & Associate Professor Annabel Cooper

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Reorienting Marxist and Feminist Theory in Neo-Liberal India

Suddhabrata Deb Roy

With the coming of age of neo-liberalisation and globalisation, workers all over the globe are suffering, both as individuals and as a social class. Most currents of Marxist theoretical analysis are still in search of the elusive '*agent of revolution*', in the process of which they have emphasised the 'social entity', the agent, but neglected the dynamic processes of its formation. Most of the feminist currents, again, have mostly emphasised the universality of gender at the expense of other social attributes, and have focused on individualised approaches towards capitalism and patriarchy.

It has become important, today, to investigate the nature of left-wing social movements, especially the Trade Union movement and its relationship with the independent Feminist Movement in neo-liberalised societies. While the gendered nature of employment in certain sectors, like the garment factories of Bangladesh or the call centres of India, has been debated and discussed in great details, little has been done to provide a paradigm which is simultaneously non-reductionist and non-prejudiced in nature. The current research attempts to do that by investigating the lives of trade unionists, civil society activists, politicians and working-class women. It attempts to reinvestigate the relationship between Marxism and Feminism through a lens which does not privilege either class or gender. The research gains relevance from the high rates of feminisation of the workforce, coupled with a dwindling trade union and workers' movement. The research attempts to provide a new approach towards understanding the relationship between social class, postmodern identities, gender, and Marxist-Feminist theory.

Keywords: Class, feminism, gender, Marxism, social movements, working class



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 monastics 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.

Qualification: PhD

Programme: Religious Studies

Supervisors: Associate Professor Ben Shonthal, Professor Ruth Fitzgerald & Dr Elizabeth Guthrie

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Recognising the Unrecognised *kalyāṇamitra*: Counsellor Buddhist nuns in Sri Lanka

Gihani De Silva

The present study will extract the essence and features of Buddhist social work in the specific case of counselling, which has been practised by Sri Lankan Buddhist nuns without any official recognition. The Buddhist nuns who have developed a high reputation for being exceptionally virtuous (*silvat*) are increasingly forming close affective ties with laity (Mrozik, 2014: 87), where the nuns are expected to provide (Buddhist) counselling as part of their monastic role and lay in turn are expected to offer them alms and robes. This inspiring role has been guiding and saving many of the lives of lay people despite social inequality factors. Buddhist teachings suggest that companionship with the wise leads to gaining wisdom. The *kalyāṇamitra* (spiritual friend) nuns voluntarily provide holistic assessments in many social problems and long-lasting solutions, with Buddhist core understanding of cause and treatment for human suffering. Attitudes of unconditional and unlimited friendliness (*maitri*) and empathetic understanding, culminate in the path of *vimukti* (liberation). Furthermore, through group counselling practices (*dhamma* sessions), nuns have succeeded in opening up dialogue and awareness within the community about problems women in particular have to deal with. The research objectives of the study were pursued by selecting three nunneries and utilising in-depth interviews as the primary research tool.

Keywords: Buddhist nuns, counselling, *kalyāṇamitra*, human suffering, liberation



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 boys and girls internalise 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.

Qualification: PhD

Programme: Gender Studies

Supervisors: Professor Chris Brickell & Dr Rebecca Stringer

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Tomboys and the New Wave of Femininity

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 the female gender.

It is my aim to add to the scholarship available on the advent of tomboyism in a way that expands and exposes the construct of femininity. 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 adult femininity. I intend to dismantle the constructs of binary gender embodiment by situating tomboyism and contemporary embodiments of femininity on the genderqueer and non-binary spectrum. It is with hopes that by doing so, we would be provided with a spectrum of embodied femininity that doesn’t stem out of opposition and/or conflict with masculinity.

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



Ihlara McIndoe

Raised in Ōtepoti Dunedin, I am currently in my fifth year at the University of Otago, having completed a MusB, and am due to complete my LLB and BA(Hons) in Gender Studies in early 2021. I have a keen interest in public law and social policy, and enjoy exploring the interconnections of my legal and gender studies. My involvement with the New Zealand Women's Law Journal - Te Aho Kawe Kaupapa Ture a ngā Wāhine and the Aotearoa Youth Leadership Institute at the Commission on the Status of Women has instilled in me a keen interest in the way that law and policy impacts women, which has been influential in the direction I have taken in my Honours research. In my spare time, I enjoy being involved in the local music community, exploring our beautiful local environment, making and eating nice food, and attempting yoga.

Qualification: Honours

Programme: Gender Studies

Supervisor: Dr Rebecca Stringer

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Counting in a Crisis: The relevance of Marilyn Waring's work in climate change policy reform

Ihlara McIndoe

"Look at the water. It has value. Now look into the water. The woman we see there counts for something". – Waring, Counting for Nothing, 1988.

The link between capitalism and climate change has long been a focus of academic discussion, as have the gendered effects of capitalism, and the disproportionate effect climate change has on women. Today, as domestic governments and the wider international community begin to realise the urgency in addressing the climate crisis, the need for sustainable policy is blatantly apparent. Around the world, including in New Zealand, calls for a Green New Deal, or the 'greening' of our economies have arisen.

In her 1988 work *Counting for Nothing*, Marilyn Waring observed that existing methods of calculating national wealth and economic value inevitably overlook the importance of the environment, as well as unpaid work, which is largely undertaken by women. Today, more than thirty years on, the same issues Waring identified within national and global economics continue. With climate change being not just an imminent, but a present threat, governments across the world are facing pressures to engage with the 'green economy'; something Waring has criticised more recently as "a GDP based piece of propaganda". This dissertation seeks to understand Waring's proposals for an alternate approach to measuring national growth and wellbeing in the 21st century New Zealand policy context, drawing from ecofeminist theory, and New Zealand-specific commentary on the valuing of care in our national economic policy.

Keywords: Climate change, green economy, unpaid work, women, ecofeminism, economic policy



Photo: Bifurcating coconut tree in the Pacific

Adriu Naduva

I am a PhD candidate with the Sociology programme. I am a medical doctor specialising in Public Health and I have an interest in doing research on health access by children and young people. My current PhD thesis looks at factors affecting the practice of Fijian professionals who are mandated to report on Child Sexual Abuse.

Qualification: PhD

Programme: Sociology

Supervisor: Dr Patrick Vakaoti

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CSA Reporting Legislation Among Pacific Countries

Adriu Naduva

Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) in the Pacific is mirroring global trends and increasingly becoming a social and public health problem. The issue has been visible via the adoption of human rights perspectives and at the same time compounded by modern developments and transitions. Many Pacific countries struggle to respond to the issue because they do not have the resources and technical capacity to tackle the problem. Where they exist, legislations are not adequate as deterrents. Mandated reporting exists as one way of addressing the increase in CSA. In Fiji this is made possible via the 2010 Child Welfare Act. However, reporting is often hampered by cultural, religious and other structural challenges. My research focuses on selected professionals who have been legally mandated to report on CSA in Fiji. In this presentation I extend this conversation and explore the current status of CSA reporting legislation in several Pacific countries as a way of situating Fiji within a context that is experiencing similar global changes and challenges.

Keywords: Child sexual abuse, reporting, legislation, law, Pacific



Nishanthi Perera

I am a PhD student at the University of Otago. My PhD research is on 'sexual health knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of international university students in New Zealand'. In general, I am interested in researching about sexuality and sexual health, contraception and women, fertility, population dynamics and population ageing. I have a Master's degree in Population and Development from London School of Economics. I like poetry and publish poems on Social Media as a hobby.

Qualification: PhD

Programme: Sociology

Supervisors: Dr Bryndl Hohmann-Marriott & Associate Professor Melanie Beres

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Socio-demographic Characteristics and Sexual Health Knowledge of International University Students in New Zealand

Nishanthi Perera

Understanding of sexual health is contextualised within culture, values and norms. Knowledge of sexual health among international students might vary by gender and the region where they had their school education. This research has gathered information on sexual health knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour of international university students in New Zealand through an online survey. The total sample size is 181 and 69% of the respondents are females. The majority of the students (31%) are from South-East Asia.

Participants were asked about sources of information from which they learned about sexual matters. The majority of them have learned most about sexual matters through school education, friends, and internet-based sex education. Nearly 8% of the total participants have learned most about sexual health through pornography. Participants were asked to select the contraception methods they have heard of from a given list. The majority of the participants have heard of most of the contraceptive methods listed. Knowledge on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) was also explored in this survey. Nearly 95% of the students have heard of HIV/Aids. However, less than half of the students have heard of scabies. Only 65% have heard of genital or anal warts. When asked about the symptoms of STIs, 27.6% of students reported that they 'do not know' any symptoms of a sexually transmitted infection of a woman while 16.6% students said that they do not know any symptoms of a sexually transmitted infection of a man. Of concern is that 7.4% of the men and 1.7% of the women mentioned that "they would not contact anyone" if they are concerned that they might have an STI. These findings recognise areas of sexual health knowledge where international university students in New Zealand may benefit from support and education.

Keywords: Sexual health knowledge, International students, sex education, New Zealand universities, contraception, sexually transmitted infections



Katherine Plant

Kia ora, I'm Katie, I'm originally from the UK, but I've lived in NZ for 18 years. I enjoy researching feminist issues, such as women's health, disability and sexual violence prevention. Intersectionality is incredibly important in my work when trying to understand issues which affect diverse communities and identities. I'm particularly interested in how we can empower marginalised voices and experiences through research and activism. When I'm not studying, I'm volunteering with the Otago Uni Feminist Club, Thursdays in Black and Te Whare Tāwharau. I recharge with great vegan food and unwind in the bath with a great podcast.

Qualification: Honours

Programme: Gender Studies

Supervisor: Associate Professor Anita Gibbs

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What are the Lived Experiences of Endometriosis in New Zealand?

Katherine Plant

This dissertation provides a detailed analysis of the lived experiences of people with endometriosis in New Zealand. Endometriosis is primarily viewed as a women's health issue and approximately one in ten women and gender diverse people have the disease in New Zealand. Women's health issues are not taken as seriously as health issues that impact men and women at more proportional levels. Patients experience additional barriers due to the invisible nature of the disease. Previous research primarily focuses on the physiological aspects of the disease, rarely looking at the lived psychosocial implications for those who experience it. By largely focusing on the physiological aspects of endometriosis, researchers are unable to provide a comprehensive holistic understanding of the disease. The lack of adequate research negatively impacts the patient's quality of life and well-being.

To examine people's experiences of endometriosis in New Zealand, I analysed 60 case studies from the past 2 years within the 'My Story' archive from Endometriosis New Zealand. Preliminary findings showed a total of 22 different themes in the experiences, ranging from educational impacts to the impacts on sexual/romantic relationships. Previous endometriosis research in New Zealand has rarely analysed lived experiences, where this dissertation is the first of its kind in New Zealand. This dissertation adds to a growing body of research positioning endometriosis as an invisible disability, in an attempt to raise awareness of the disease and to improve the quality of life for those who experience it.

Keywords: Lived experiences, endometriosis, disability, psychosocial impacts, quality of life, women's health



Miguel Sanchez

My name is Miguel, and when I'm not at campus studying, I love spending time with my friends, cooking and playing video games at home. My research has primarily focused on critiquing and exploring alternatives to capitalism and neoliberalism; however, my research interests are not exclusive to those areas. I've found positions involving mentorship and helping others rewarding, so I hope I'll be involved with more of them in the future.

Qualification: Masters by Coursework

Programme: Sociology

Supervisor: Professor Hugh Campbell

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Coffee Cups and Capitalism

Miguel Sanchez

A critical perspective is required with the recent popularity of reusable products, in particular, reusable coffee cups. The public's current consensus on the need to be environmentally conscious has led to reusable coffee cups becoming a product inextricably tied to lifestyles and movements surrounding waste reduction. Preliminary research connotes that consumer concerns have led to reusable coffee cups acting as a new package for coffee, under the notion of sustainable consumerism. Current literature on product packaging, corporate food regimes, neoliberal governance and the history of coffee, indicate that reusable coffee cups fulfil the role of contemporary commodities deemed valuable due to their supposed waste-reducing nature. Sociologist, Anne Murcott, proposes that there should be further social scientific research conducted on the subject of food packaging, as current research primarily focuses on its material and marketing utility. With these ideas in mind, the goal of the project is to reveal ideological intent and dynamics of power produced and consumed within the context of reusable products through a critical discourse analysis on online materials covering the discussion and promotion of reusable coffee cups. Ultimately, the project seeks to contribute to the growing literature on reusable products' relationship between market entities and consumers by expanding on putative links between reusable coffee cups, packaging, green capitalism and neoliberalism.

Keywords: Reusable coffee cups, sustainable consumption, green capitalism, neoliberalism, packaging



Tahere T Siisiialafia

I am from Samoa. I hold a BA in Psychology and Sociology from the University of the South Pacific and a Masters of Social Work from the University of the West Indies. I commenced my PhD in Sociology in 2019. I work as a lecturer at the National University of Samoa and I am the Chairperson of the Pacific Youth, a regional youth-led NGO that promotes and advocates for the interests of young people in the Pacific region.

Qualification: PhD

Programme: Sociology

Supervisors: Dr Patrick Vakaoti & Associate Professor Marcelle Dawson

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Reflections on Engaging Youth in Qualitative Research via Online Methods

Tahere T Siisiialafia

My research explores the nature and scope of youth advocacy and activism on issues like climate change, gender inequality and human rights in the Pacific. It addresses the dearth of information available about youth who engage in these activities. The study involves the use of on-line interviews with participants from 14 Pacific Island countries. This research method was adopted to address the time, spatial and resource constraints associated with reaching youth participants across the Pacific. It included online participant recruitment through Google Forms and either written (via Google Docs) or audio/video recorded in-depth interviews. This presentation focusses on the practicalities, experiences, and reflections of adopting this method. It discusses the advantages of establishing prior community engagement networks and more so (technologically) engaging with young people in a way that they are familiar with. The online method was developed prior to COVID-19 but has become very appropriate as researchers consider ways of engaging research participants in a post-COVID era.

Keywords: Youth advocacy, youth activism, Pacific, online research methods



Katherine Spencer

I am a 22 year old from New Plymouth who is passionate about understanding and improving the experiences of minority groups. This is why I decided to further my academic career in Gender Studies, as I feel feminism is both a core part of my outlook on life and my degree. I decided to pair my passion for sport and my academic interest in Gender studies to create an engaging Honours project that will hopefully have far reaching results for women in New Zealand sport. When I'm not studying, I enjoy coaching and playing soccer, mountain biking, hiking, reading, and composing, recording and producing music. I also play 5 instruments, so I'm never bored and love a challenge!

Qualification: Honours

Programme: Gender Studies

Supervisor: Professor Chris Brickell

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Sport and Gender Dynamics

Katherine Spencer

This dissertation looks at discrepancies and inconsistencies of treatment regarding opportunities and benefits in the popular field sports of soccer (the statistically most popular sport), rugby (the 'kiwi' sport) and in sport generally. People that are treated as lesser than the generic athlete in the sporting world are often the same people that are treated as inferior in the non-sporting world. These groups include women, people of colour, those in the LGBTQIA+ community, individuals with disabilities and so on. This dissertation will focus on women in sport but will draw examples and analyses of other marginalised groups as well. To understand how these individuals experience sport, we must first look at the history of sport overall, statistics of who plays sports (as well as who is not allowed to), and whether there is any biological and/or socialisation effect in the idea that men are better athletes than women and should be treated better because of it. Within soccer and rugby this dissertation will look at gendered differences in pay, respect, media representation and perception, screen time, advertisements, facilities, staff and equipment. The information is to be gleaned from three areas; literature, social media analyses and an interview with a professional sportswoman, and so should reflect a wide range of informative sources on the subject.

Keywords: Gender Dynamics in Sport

Current and Recently Graduated Students

Te Taura Takata / Sociology, Gender Studies and Criminology

Āhua ā iwi / Social & Community Work



Supriya Koipurathu Rajappan

I am Supriya. I am originally from Kerala, a small state in the southern part of India. I moved to New Zealand in 2015. I am currently doing my second year of PhD in Sociology. My research interest is on child and adolescent issues, and migration. I worked as a social worker in India and hold my Bachelor and Master's degree in Social Work. Outside of my studies I like dance and travelling.

Qualification: PhD

Programme: Sociology

Supervisors: Dr Patrick Vakaoti and Dr Bryndl Hohmann-Marriott

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Migrant Adolescents and Bullying: The experiences of Indian adolescents in New Zealand

Supriya Koipurathu Rajappan

New Zealand's migrant population has increased rapidly in the past decade. Adolescents are a significant part of this migrant population, and face many challenges when acculturating into their new society. As ethnic minorities, they mostly encounter bullying and discrimination in schools. This study set out to explore the bullying and discrimination experiences of Indian diaspora adolescents in New Zealand high schools, and learn about the adolescents' knowledge and involvement in school bullying intervention programmes. The mixed method study was carried out with first and second generation Indian migrant high school students aged 13-18 years, who are members of Indian Associations in Auckland. Data was collected using a self-administered online survey and focus group discussions. It is intended that the findings of the study will further our understanding of how the young migrants will navigate their school environment and how effective are the school bullying policies in supporting the well-being of Indian high school students.

Keywords: Bullying, Indian migrant high school students, mixed method

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?’

Tautala Aiono-Faletolu (MA in Human Services): ‘Meaningful social work practice in the rebuild of Samoa following natural disasters’

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?’

Jule Barth (PhD in Geography): ‘Political subjectivities, knowledge and care’

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

Joanna Chin (PhD in Sociology): ‘Framing poverty in Singapore’

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

Tristan Claridge (PhD in Management): ‘An interdisciplinary exploration of the limits of social capital’

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): ‘Ngai 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 Doebring (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'

Sandhiya Gounder (PhD in Sociology): 'Electoral reforms and its impact on unity in Fiji'

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'

Nathan Jaquiery (PhD in Social and Community Work): 'Stabilising factors in permanent placements for children or young people in the "care system"

Joshua James (MA in Gender Studies): 'Understanding the "pink" vote in Aotearoa' (Recently submitted)

Joshua James (PhD in Gender Studies): 'What attracts queer people to far-right political movements?'

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'

Nicola Liebergreen (PhD in Children's Issues): 'How do Niue youth negotiate intimacy online?'

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 whanau members’

Bell Murphy (PhD in Gender Studies): ‘Empowerment beyond the neoliberal self: An auto ethnography of a feminist self-defence teacher in Aotearoa’

Angella Ndaka (PhD in Sociology): ‘Farmers participation in improving the effectiveness of fertilizer subsidies value-chain policies in developing Countries’

Romulo Nieva Jr (PhD in Sociology): ‘Sociological dimensions of reproductive health needs among women prisoners’

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

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)

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 auto ethnography of secondary victimisation after sexual violence’ (Recently submitted)

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

Dirk Schruba (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’

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/Ōtepoti’

NOTES

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