



Centre for **C**ultures **o**f **R**eproduction, **T**echnologies and **H**ealth



Annual Report

2023

Welcome to CORTH

Established in 2014, our centre provides an intellectual space for intensive research, critical thinking and the development of an interdisciplinary body of scholarship on reproductive and health cultures. Framed by a specific interest in the processes of power and addressing health inequities, we promote research on the social, medical, public health, legal, and moral lenses through which reproductive health is perceived, produced, concretised and articulated (for instance, through new policies, engagement with new technologies, or new forms of social relations in reproduction).

With our unique focus on cultural ethnographic perspectives, our centre facilitates knowledge transfer partnerships between anthropologists, social and human scientists, health researchers, medical professionals, practitioners, legal activists and policy makers working internationally on critical issues in global maternal, sexual reproductive health (SRH), emerging technologies and health and human rights. A specific aim is to facilitate international dialogue through 'Southern' analytic models and practices. CORTH fosters a strong research environment for its international and home doctoral or postdoctoral students and through hosting visiting researchers and fellows, we seek to develop collaborative projects, produce quality research outputs and connect Sussex faculty, graduate students and our broader membership to key thinkers and policy makers in the field of SRH research.

Contents

Welcome to CORTH	2
Aims and Objectives	3
Research Themes	4
CORTH News	5
SPECIAL FOCUS Revisioning Surrogacy	8
CORTH Knowledge Exchange and Impact	10
Research Highlights and Updates	12
CORTH Fora, Discussions and Webinars	13
CORTH Publication Highlights	16
CORTH Connections	17
CORTH Members	18



CORTH team:
Beth Mills, Maria Moscati, Chi Ezifuela,
Eve Wilcox, ANO, Bella Tomsett, Gill
Love, Maya Unnithan, Wezi
Mwangulube, Laureenne Ajayi,
Anushka Zafar, Ritabrata Roy.

The CORTH team

We have 277 members, including 64 Sussex faculty, 49 international senior research associates and advisors. We encourage all those interested in our Centre to get involved! Visit our website to become a member.

CORTH is based in the School of Global Studies at Sussex and works closely with other Schools on campus: the School of Law, Politics and Sociology (LPS), the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), the School of Education and Social Work (ESW) and the Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS).

CORTH is directed by **Maya Unnithan**, Professor of Social and Medical Anthropology (School of Global Studies), along with fellow co-directors, **Hayley MacGregor**, Professor of Medical Anthropology and Global Health (Institute of Development Studies), **Maria Federica Moscati**, Reader in Law and Society (School of Law, Politics and Sociology), **Chi Eziefuela**, Clinical Senior Lecturer in Global Health and Infection (Brighton and Sussex Medical School), and **Beth Mills**, Senior Lecturer in International Development (School of Global Studies)

Aims and Objectives

- To bring **culture, political economy and discursive power frameworks** to the heart of maternal, sexual and reproductive healthcare scholarship, practice, policy making and implementation.
- To bring **researchers and non-academic partners** to address and have **policy impact** in the critical domains of reproductive, sexual and maternal health, especially with reference to **health inequalities, technology regulation and population policies**.
- To bring together **stakeholders in reproductive health research, practice and policy globally**, i.e., across northern and southern nations, through forging connections across a number of networks within each context, including: state and civil society actors, with a specific aim of engendering South-South exchange; to design **collaborative research and policy impact projects** with the partners identified in these networks; and to promote the work of researchers in civil society organisations.
- To translate and communicate ethnographic research methods for the understanding and use of health providers, public health practitioners and policy makers; to hold **training workshops** in ethnographic methods for health researchers; to **bridge the methodological gap between healthcare policy, quantitative health research and ethnography**.
- To actively engage with the media to influence public debates on SRH related issues, the CORTH Blog is one outlet to achieve this aim.
- To gain **large programme and centre funding** to house active researchers and visitors, sustain international networks, and establish Sussex as a **global hub for research and dissemination on sexual reproductive health, maternal health and health rights**.
- To bring together a cross-section of Sussex academics working on SRH issues across the university network to further enable **international links**.

Our Values: interdisciplinary, critical thinking, inclusive and collaborative research

We are against institutional racism, repressive violence and discrimination and committed to pursuing decolonisation and reproductive justice for all.

CORTH Research Themes

Since our inception, key themes continue to develop as areas of shared interest and an impetus for new projects.



CORTH News

Felicitations to our CORTH Members

Innocent Grant who has been selected as co-chair of the WHO-IBP (Implementing Best Practices) network on Family Planning and Sexual Reproductive Health, representing his organisation Young and Alive, in Tanzania.

Devanik Saha (IDS/Global Studies, Sussex) for the successful defence of his PhD thesis on men's involvement in antenatal care in an informal settlement in Delhi, India. Congratulations also on his new position as a Postdoctoral Research Officer at the School of Health and Social Care, University of Essex. He will be working on a project "Gendered Violence and Poor Mental Health Among Migrants in Precarious Situations", across India, UK, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Myanmar.

Ishrat Khan (Global Studies, Sussex) on completing her PhD on economic empowerment and women's sexual agency in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Ulla McKnight on her promotion to full Lecturer in the department of Sociology.

Eleanor Kashouris (Sociology, Sussex) who passed her PhD with no corrections, and took over Dr McKnight's position. She has also provided a workshop to UTI sufferers in Newcastle and in planning another in central London.

Emma Varley During the 2022–2023 year Emma served as President of the Canadian Anthropology Society. Emma will serve as Outgoing President in the 2023–2024 year.

Beth Mills (Global Studies, Sussex University) for her British Academy/Leverhulme grant to research the socio-economic and medical intersections of gender, COVID-19 and HIV in South Africa.

Silvia de Zordo for her promotion to Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Barcelona.

Maria Moscati for her promotion to Reader in Law and Society. Congratulations also for her National Mediation Award on Diversity and Inclusion (awarded by the College of Mediators and Civil Mediation Council, UK).



Maria Moscati

Thank you

We are sadly saying goodbye to **Eve Wilcox** who is moving on to another post in the University. Thanks so much Eve for all your wonderful support as coordinator for CORTH – we will miss you!

Visitors

Mulu Beyene Kidanemariam

Mulu Kidanemariam, currently a PhD student at the Faculty of Law, University of Bergen spent part of the Autumn term at CORTH working with colleagues across the School of Global Studies and the School of Law. Mulu studied law and taught at Mekelle University, School of Law, in Ethiopia. His PhD project examines the legal framework regulating the production and use of maternal mortality data, mainly in the Ethiopian context. His research areas of interest include the Ethiopian constitutional system, human rights, reproductive health rights, human rights indicators, and health data for accountability. His PhD is part of a larger collaborative project led by the University of Bergen, MATRISET. He visited CORTH as part of this collaboration.



Mulu Beyene Kidanemariam

Karine Aasgaard Jansen

Karine Aasgaard Jansen was a Visiting Research Fellow at CORTH in March–April 2023. Karine is a senior researcher at the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) in Bergen, Norway, and the coordinator of the research group "Poverty and Global Health". She holds an MSc in social anthropology and a PhD



Maya Unnithan with Karine

in cultural studies from the University of Bergen. Karine has worked within the field of medical anthropology throughout her whole career, primarily focusing on issues at the interface between health and politics. She takes a critical approach to public health interventions in her research which includes the 2005–07 chikungunya epidemic in Réunion and Mauritius, vaccine hesitancy and pandemic preparedness during the 2009–10 swine flu pandemic in Norway, and fertility control including abortion in Madagascar. Her involvement in CORTH is through the initiation of a new research project on menstruation together with Maya Unnithan and other research partners both in the Global North and South.



Karine Aasgaard Jansen

Anindita Mazumdar

Anindita's work is on surrogacy and the new reproductive technologies in India. She visited CORTH during her trip to the UK in April this year to discuss collaboration in the area of surrogacy and to explore broader collaborations between her University and the Department of Anthropology.

Debra DeLaet

Debra DeLaet, Professor in Political Science at Drake University, joined CORTH as a Visiting Research Fellow in April and May 2023. During this time Debra gave a CORTH seminar entitled, 'Genital Cutting Across Borders: Sociocultural Biases in Global Responses to the Non-therapeutic Genital Cutting of Children'. In addition to meeting many CORTH members and Sussex faculty during her visit, Beth and Debra also used this visit to build a series of long-term academic projects, and together wrote an article entitled 'Place-based Reproductive Justice: Human Rights and Abortion Mobilities in Post-Dobbs United States' that is under review in *Feminist Anthropology*. Beth will co-present this research and build on this collaboration with Debra when visiting Drake University in October 2023.



Debra DeLaet

Welcome to New Members

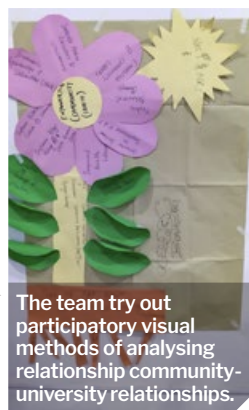
In our new academic year, we look forward to welcoming **Professor Anna Robinson Pant** and her team who will be joining CORTH in September 2023 to complete work on their exciting Medical Research Council (MRC) UK funded project piloting a new approach to university and community partnership in public health. The project 'Empowering communities through university partnerships in public health' brings together two institutes of medicine – at Tribhuvan University in Nepal and the University of Santo Tomas in the Philippines – and CORTH at the University of Sussex.



MRC project team from Tribhuvan University (Nepal) and University of Santo Tomas (the Philippines).



Institutional diagramming activity at MRC project methodology workshop in Kathmandu.



The team try out participatory visual methods of analysing relationship community-university relationships.



Professor Anna Robinson Pant

External members

Svati Shah; Alexandra Sawyer; Mylo Egipciano; Victoria Hall; Fekadu Adugna Tufa; Harriet Martin; Erica van der Sijpt; Margaret Mutumba; Kelsey Holt; Long Xiaowei; Johanna Raven; Skylab Sahu; Claudia Merli; Inga Winkler.

Doctoral Students and Research Associates: Bella Tomsett; Hélène Binesse; Liza Caruana-Finkel; Miranda Bain; Anna Horn; Ruby Po; Nahida Hussain

Sussex Staff: Caroline Bennett (Lecturer, Anthropology, University of Sussex); Victoria Hall (Research Fellow, Brighton School of Medical Science); Diego Garcia (Lecturer, Brighton School of Medical Science); Harriet Martin (Researcher, Brighton School of Medical Science); Ryann Donnelly (Lecturer, Art History, University of Sussex); Nicholas Nisbett (Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies); Joanna Callahan (Professor, Film Studies, University of Sussex).

New Member Focus

Inga Winkler

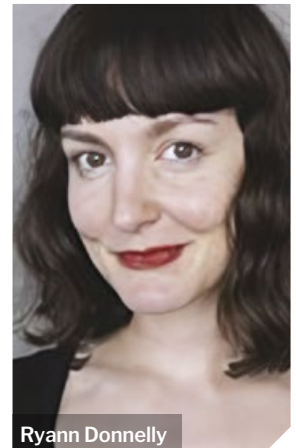
Inga Winkler is an Associate Professor in International Human Rights Law at the Central European University in Vienna, Austria. She takes a socio-legal approach to her research, which focuses on socio-economic rights, gender justice and sustainable development. Her books include the first comprehensive monograph on the human right to water, the Handbook of Critical Menstruation Studies, and an edited volume on the Sustainable Development Goals. Inga is the founder and co-director of the Working Group on Menstrual Health & Gender Justice and the co-chair of the University Seminar on Menstruation & Society at Columbia University.



Inga Winkler

Ryann Donnelly (MAH, University of Sussex)

Ryann Donnelly is an artist and academic interested in the relationship between biopolitics and subversive bodily representation in queer and feminist performance and sculptural practices since 1960. She completed a practice-based PhD at Goldsmiths, University of London in 2017. Her first book, *Justify My Love: Sex, Subversion, and Music Video* was released by Repeater Books in 2019. She has performed and exhibited internationally at venues ranging from CBGB to the Guggenheim Museum in New York.



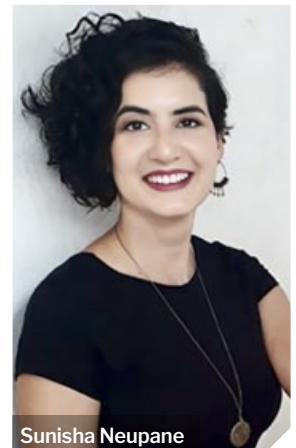
Ryann Donnelly

Sunisha Neupane (IDS/ University of Sussex)



Sunisha is a doctoral student at IDS whose research aligns closely with CORTH. Sunisha has completed her fieldwork in Nepal, living with in a village and tracing the experience of pregnant women through to birth. Her work has important insights for perinatal services in remote parts of Nepal. Sunisha recently won the 100-word essay competition held by the Science Policy Research Unit at the University. Here is the text of her essay: 'I study access to maternal healthcare using ethnographic methods in a mountain village in Nepal. I have known Devi since she was

2 months pregnant. She is now in labour at the health centre, being carried for five hours on a stretcher. She is in pain and distressed. But remains quiet and stoic. Six hours later of 'push harder', she delivers. With the newborn in her arms, she shows no emotions – no smile, no tears. Finally, she speaks, with a cracking voice, 'arko chori janmi yo sanansar maa dhuka pauna': another girl born to a life full of struggle'.



Sunisha Neupane

Margaret Mutumba (University of Waterloo, Canada)



Margaret is a Reproductive health and fertility scholar in the School of Public Health and Health Systems at the University of Waterloo, Canada. In her recently completed doctoral research Margaret looked at how fertility care can be made more affordable and accessible in Sub-Saharan Africa through low-cost IVF initiatives. Africa has one of the highest rates of infertility globally yet absence of affordable fertility services in Sub-Saharan Africa has been justified by overpopulation and limited resources, resulting in

inequitable access to infertility treatment compared to developed countries. Low-cost IVF (LCIVF) initiatives have therefore been developed to simplify IVF-related treatment, reduce costs, and improve access to treatment for individuals in low-resource contexts. Margaret's qualitative case study methodology explores barriers and facilitators to implementing low-cost fertility services (LCIVF) in a low-resource, government facility in Uganda. The findings suggest that effective implementation of these low-IVF initiatives require (1) sustained political support and favourable policy & legislation, (2) public sensitisation and engagement of traditional, cultural, and religious leaders (3) strengthening local innovation and capacity building of fertility health workers, in particular embryologists (4) sustained implementer leadership engagement and inter-organisational collaboration and (5) proven clinical evidence and utilization of LCIVF initiatives in innovator countries.



Margaret Mutumba

CORTH Social Media and Website



CORTH Twitter continues to have a highly active presence at the University of Sussex. Our Twitter handle has a regular engagement which involves daily tweets, live tweeting of events and the publicising of our members' research work. We currently have over 700 followers in total. Our Twitter handle is managed by Eve Wilcox, our centre coordinator. Follow us @CORTHSUSSEX



Since most of our events have been online we have launched a CORTH YouTube channel. Here you can find some of our recent event recordings, in case you missed the live discussion.



SPECIAL FOCUS Revisioning Surrogacy

In our CORTH special focus section this year we endeavour to explore how surrogacy is experienced, perceived and performed across the world, and why it remains a dynamic and relevant area of research. Researchers and activists from different backgrounds have offered important insights on this topic.

Anindita Majumdar, Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad

Surrogacy remains a contested and popular focus in current academic research. The coming together of what Vivianna Zelizer calls 'hostile worlds' is one of the main reasons for this continued interest. Surrogacy encapsulates within itself the fascination regarding the so-called dilution of motherhood to the vagaries of commerce. The altruism and sacrificial bond of love that motherhood is identified with seems to be contested with the idea that women are willing to fulfil the gestational role for compensation and with the desire to relinquish the baby to others. However, the vast literature on surrogacy has time and again testified how complex the reproductive role is, and how its euphemising traps women into monolithic entities. As global surrogacy markets change with the continued tussle between moral positioning, free market desires and the inevitable restriction of reproductive rights—surrogacy is becoming the desired practice for legislative bans in different countries such as India and Thailand. As is usual, the moralistic positioning around the practice refuses to acknowledge the forms of violence that women are subject to as surrogates, especially in the unregulated use of assisted reproductive technologies. That the technology can be a source of extraction and is violently invasive is highlighted by most social science research on surrogacy but has yet to make a decisive impact on policy. There is a renewed need now to engage with surrogacy legislation, especially in India wherein the new law banning commercial surrogacy has caught more attention than the law regulating assisted reproductive technologies. The continued disassociation between technology and commercial surrogacy is a problematic perception and can only be truly understood through sustained investigations.

Margaret Mutumba (Waterloo University, USA) on how East African practices re-shape the thinking about surrogacy

Surrogacy is an important area of research given its utility in aiding many around the world to fulfil their aspirations to become parents, where natural and medical intervention have not been successful. In contexts, like Africa, where the main function of marriage and women is to bear children and extend family lineage; the function of surrogacy

(in particular, traditional surrogacy) has historical underpinnings. In cultures such as the *Kuria* in East Africa, a practice known as *nyumba mboke* is observed whereby younger women (known as *Kaweto* aka surrogate mother) are taken on to conceive children for older childless women. However, there is a notable rise in gestational surrogacy as advances in assisted reproductive technologies have made it possible in developing countries (with limited to no legal protections for persons involved). Contending reports of financial empowerment versus negligence, coupled with diverse cultural and religious interpretations call for a deeper understanding into the practice of surrogacy. How does this practice take shape at different sites? Furthermore, realizing that there is no one size fits all, how is the wellbeing and rights of surrogates, intending parents and children born through this practice guaranteed? How can health systems be strengthened to better support ethical practice and mitigate adverse outcomes? Which shared learnings can help guide policy and practice? Research into surrogacy from diverse contexts thus offers us an opportunity to dig deeper, interrogate and unearth explanations to these poignant questions, contributing towards the future of ethical surrogacy practice.

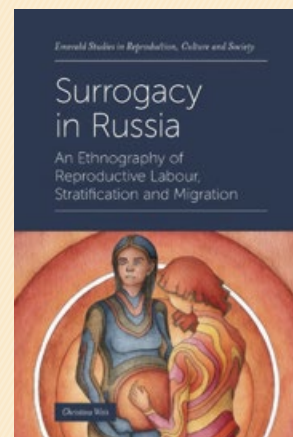
Follow this link to hear more on the topic:

The She Word, BBC programme 16 May 2022, [What should be done to protect the rights of surrogate others?](#)



Christina Weiss (De Montfort University) on What surrogacy in Russia reveals

In 2015, Brownyn Parry remarked in her article "Narratives of Neoliberalism: 'Clinical Labour' in Context" how "[the] tide of moral panic and restrictive regulation that drew commissioning parents away from Thailand now washes them up into the slew of newly funded fertility clinics in Mexico opened specifically to address their unmet needs." Not even a decade later, her observation continues to describe how changes in global surrogacy take place: as governments restrict forms of surrogacy or ban the practise outright, the actors in it move the business and organisational structures swiftly from the 'restricting' country to a new 'receiving' country. In other words, one country replaces another and the market adapts. Over the past two decades, scholars of surrogacy practices have witnessed and studied how



transnational surrogacy 'hubs' – like India (Pande 2021, Rudrappa 2021), Thailand (Whittaker 2019), Mexico (Schurr 2019), Georgia (Vertommen and Barbagallo 2022), Russia (Weis 2021) and Ukraine (König 2023) – and smaller, less established surrogacy 'hubs' – like Kenya, Ghana, Kazakhstan and Laos (Whittaker, Gerrits and Weis 2022) – appear, operate and (re)produce power dynamics between reproductive agents.

In light of these developments, studying local and global surrogacy dynamics continues to be an important area of scholarship. For this purpose, we now need to take our scope beyond the 'why people do it' and 'how people do it' to analyse how governments are instrumentalising surrogacy for their political agenda and how surrogacy practises (and public attitudes to it) will change amidst climate crisis, an increasingly right-wing governance and rapidly advancing technological innovations. In my own work I spent over a decade studying the social organisation and cultural framing of surrogacy in Russia. This work culminated with the publication of my monograph "Surrogacy in Russia. An Ethnography of Reproductive Labour, Stratification and Migration" (2021). With Russia's ban for homosexual couples and foreigners to access surrogacy services (introduced in December 2022), and clinics seeing a decline in surrogacy arrangements in over 70% (Shamardina 2023), I am curious where the clients (client parents), reproductive workers (egg providers and surrogacy workers), agents and medical staff will go next, with Belarus and Kazakhstan being the most likely new receiving countries.

In 2023, Anika König and Heather Jacobson coined the term 'reprowebs', building on previous concepts of 'reproscapes' and 'reprohubs' to particularly focus "on the elasticity and changeability of the reproductive industry, its fragmentation, and the individual journeys people take within it." Similar to spider webs, 'reprowebs' flexibly react to change and disruptions: they can still span from one point to another and function even when damaged, and they can be repaired using what is there. This conceptual approach excellently captures what we are currently witnessing in the shifting



This is me, taken by surprise and dressed in scrubs, after witnessing an embryo transfer for a surrogacy arrangement. I had only just met the surrogacy worker in the IVF clinic and briefly chatted to her (about my research interests and whether she could imagine meeting me for an interview) when she asked me whether I had ever seen an embryo transfer. Upon denying having such an experience, she invited me in, and instructed the embryologist to get me scrubs.



A tag of a pregnant woman, scrawled on the facade of apartment buildings facing the Moskovskiy train station in St Petersburg; a train station where the majority of commuting surrogacy workers would arrive and depart from during their surrogacy pregnancies. (See Chapter 4, Reproductive Migrations, for more on surrogacy mobilities).

landscape of transnational surrogacy: (transnational) surrogacy arrangements continue to go ahead in spite of lockdowns and travel bans (Carone et al 2021, Weis 2021), war aggressions (König 2023) and restrictions (Au 2023, Weis 2021).

Carmelo Danisi, University of Bologna, on Recognising parenthood of children who were born through surrogacy in Human Rights Law

An increasing number of cases related to the recognition of parenthood of children who were born through surrogacy have reached the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) in recent years. Since surrogacy is mostly banned within the countries of the Council of Europe, in many States parties to the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) law falls short of matching the social and family realities of these children in terms of granting legal recognition to their relationship with both intended parents. In some of these States, like Italy, such a recognition has even been the object of very different decisions by national Courts in light of the different approaches used to balance all interests at play. On the one hand, the need to protect the concerned child's best interests, to be read in light of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, seems to require recognition with both intended parents and with no exceptions whatsoever. On the other hand, the interest of those States that prohibit surrogacy on 'public order' grounds seems to justify significant restrictions to the recognition of parenthood, with a particularly negative impact on unmarried (same-sex) couples.



In this state of legal uncertainty for both children and their intended parents, the ECtHR's overall approach seems to be based on a peculiar balancing of interests. While the best interests of the concerned children have been read narrowly if compared with the general approach recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the strong focus placed on the interest of States parties to enforce their prohibition of surrogacy overlooks other factors that may play a role in furthering the human rights of children born via surrogacy. To show these points, the seminar compared the principles applied by the ECtHR with the approach adopted on the intra-EU recognition of parenthood of same-sex couples' children by the Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU) in the V.M.A. Pancharevo case (2021). The CJEU tried indeed to provide a meaningful solution for such families while respecting the EU member States' own competences in fields, like family law, that are not covered by EU law. While its approach, combined with the relevant EU legislation proposals currently under discussion, seems to generate an increasing gap with the limited protection currently offered under the ECHR, it may nonetheless provide an alternative exercise in balancing the interests at stake when the ECtHR needs to decide on surrogacy-related cases. Therefore, the following questions were discussed: is the ECtHR's balancing of interests in surrogacy-related cases really fair? Can a different human rights' approach to recognition of parenthood established via surrogacy be envisaged?

CORTH Blog Highlight

Our blog site continues to be a space for the critical exchange of knowledge and discussion from around the globe. Our highlight this year is as follows:

Maternal mortality data: More than meets the eye

Mulu Beyene Kidanemariam, PhD candidate at the faculty of Law, University of Bergen, Norway, 2022/23 CORTH Visiting Fellow

Quantifying health outcomes is now a standard phenomenon, and the maternal mortality ratio (MMR) has become one of the major measurements with a wide range of

uses. It is utilised to assess not only the state of maternal health but also health systems functioning, gender in/equality, and beyond. As of late, it is also serving as a human rights indicator for such rights as life and health. Despite its growing importance, however, the processes that produce such data do not attract the attention they merit.

Notes from the field: Women's use of mobile phones in navigating Dhaka city

Anushka Zafar (School of Global Studies, University of Sussex)

In April 2023, I began ethnographic fieldwork in Dhaka, conducting focus group discussions with urban working women. My PhD research focuses on how working women aged 18-40 from Dhaka, Bangladesh navigate the city every day, particularly regarding their use of mobile phones and apps in urban spaces. I aim to identify the enabling and disabling factors involving mobile phones that affect women's safe and equitable access, usage, and



participation in an emerging city like Dhaka. Over the last few months, I have been recruiting participants, building rapport and learning more about their life histories, aiming to understand the contexts influencing their choices in navigating public spaces each day. Currently, I am beginning to interview participants to explore their mobile phone and app usage while accompanying them as we travel together on various public transport. Fieldwork will continue until June 2024.

Centre for Cultures of Reproduction,
Technologies and Health

Maternal mortality data: more than meets the eye

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Mulu Beyene Kidanemariam, PhD Candidate at the Faculty of Law, University of Bergen, Norway
Mulu Beyene Kidanemariam is currently working on a PhD project that examines the legal dimension of a maternal death auditing system. She visited CORTH in autumn 2022 as a visiting scholar.



WHO et al (2019) Trends in Maternal Mortality: 2000-2017

Knowledge Exchange and Impact



Catherine Will and her team at Sussex organised an exciting conference, Marginalisation and the Microbe on 22nd and 23rd November 2022, with social and medical scientists,

including microbiologists and those working on health practice. Talks are shown here: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/sociology/research>.

Maria Moscati produced a craft book linked to her research *Children, Law, and Happiness*, presented at the exhibition 'Please to Touch' during the conference of Social Research Association. Framed within children's rights and comparative legal studies scholarship, this research draws upon empirical data collected between 2018 and 2023 through art-based research methods involving 510 children and adolescents in England, Italy, Brazil, India, China, Germany, Bolivia, and China. Children produced artworks in answer to the following questions:

1. What is happiness for you?
2. What makes you happy?



Children answered using a variety of artistic means including drawing, Lego, photography, poetry, videos, writing, music, as well as a mix of drawing, writing and sculpture.

The craft book is made with a selection of the artworks children have created for the project and shows both the research methods used and the findings of the research.



Inga Winkler leads on Human Rights Hub blog for Menstrual Health Day

Inga Winkler, Associate Professor in International Human Rights Law at the Central European University in Vienna, Austria, prepared a blog with Maya Unnithan and Karine Aasgard for menstrual health day which was published on Oxford's Human Rights Hub website.

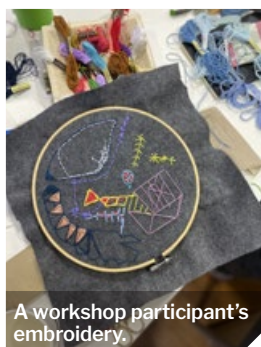
Sophie Collins (IDS/Global Studies, University of Sussex) is presenting material from her PhD on 'The importance of advocates in policy development processes for menstrual health, A case study of the Kenyan Menstrual Hygiene



Management (MHM) Policy and Strategy, at the Biennial Conference of the Society for Menstrual Cycle Research – The Period is Political. Washington, July 2023.

Ulla Mcknight led a one day workshop: Engaging with arts-based participatory methods to explore ‘unsayable’ experiences’.

Ulla organised this NIHR (CRN Kent Surrey and Sussex Underserved Funding Application) funded workshop in February (£2276.60). Ulla and colleagues Sarah Milton, Camillia Kong and Professor Devyani Prabhat. Professor Sheelagh McGuinness were joined by an experienced art practitioner Saj Fareed to pilot an arts-based mode of engagement – specifically a ‘slow-stitch’ workshop to explore its viability for implementation within a broader study on underserved communities called ‘Reproductive Borders and Bordering Reproduction: Access to Care for Women from Ethnic Minority and Migrant Groups’. Participants sought to examine its function as a future participatory research methodology which may enable the articulation and exploration of intersectional/trauma-related experiences in reproductive/maternal healthcare. The group are also currently co-writing an academic piece for *Sociology of Health & Illness*, (accepted for a special issue) that will foreground the work of Black and minoritised scholars; focused specifically on how the arts-based workshop methodology might enable racialised women to ‘say the unsayable’ about their traumatic reproductive health experiences.



A workshop participant's embroidery.



From left to right: Saj Fareed (@pullandpin), Dr Camillia Kong (Queen's College), Dr Sarah Milton (King's College), Professor Devayani Prabhat (Bristol), Dr Ulla McKnight (UoS). Missing Professor Sheelagh McGuinness.

Maya Unnithan contributed a piece based on her work on infertility in India to the Massachusetts General Hospital's (MGH) Global OB-Gyn newsletter, April/May 2023 which is part of the Strength and Serenity Global initiative against gender-based violence led by Annekathryn Goodman, Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology at the Harvard Medical School and MGH.

In her piece Maya argues that ‘Infertility is not just a medical or demographic issue but one that is fundamentally social and political. Most strikingly, it is both the case that infertility leads to social issues, and that social and biopolitical conditions themselves create the problem of infertility. In a patriarchal society such as Rajasthan, infertility cannot be separated from issues of inequality and power in how women's husbands, communities, and the state, control and make decisions about their reproductive bodies. The public health solution to infertility in these contexts is medically straightforward since reproductive tract infections can be easily treated by appropriate medication. However, the inadequate attention given to the complex social conditions surrounding infertility, combined with the low priority given to infertility by state health

policy makers in high fertility contexts, leads to a failure of effective treatment. The fact that most women respondents consider local healers as efficacious is not because of certain ‘beliefs’ or ‘cultural differences’, but because of the limited quality of available medical care, and the fact that local healers are often much more cognizant of how social issues give rise to the experience of infertility.

From: *The Global Impact of Infertility* by Victoria W. Fitz, MD, MSCR and Jan Shifren, MD; *Letting Go: My IVF Journey* by Sara Goodman; *The Global Burden of Infertility* by Mackenzie Naert, MD; *The Combined Power of Social and Medical Approaches to Tackling Infertility* by Maya Unnithan, PhD. April/May 2023

A ‘minimally safe-care practice’ toolkit for long term conditions: improvising protocols in poorly resourced, rural healthcare settings in India

Sangeeta Chattoo and Karl Atkin (Sociology, University of York), in collaboration with **ASHWINI**, Adivasi Hospital, Gudalur (Tamil Nadu) in India, have been involved in an exciting project, developing a ‘minimally safe practice toolkit’ for improving



outcomes in sickle cell disease. The ESRC/ IAA award responded to a key finding from a larger ESRC grant (ES 15665/1 minimally safe-care practice). Protocols embedded in government policy guidelines had little influence on practice of clinicians at a local level. Given the challenges of limited resources and governing a large/ diverse healthcare landscape, clinicians within the same geographical area often follow different treatment protocols that can be potentially harmful for patients in the long-term. Taking the cue from a colloquial Hindi term, *Juggad*, (improvising with little at hand), the team worked closely with clinicians, parents and patients and local research partners, to find practical solutions to improving knowledge and every-day practices of care, known to improve outcomes in similar settings.

With ASHWINI, we organised two consultative workshops (November 2019, April 2022), attended by delegates (in person/online) from across India and Nepal. Based on intense discussions, two toolkits for health care practitioners, parents/ carers and adult patients respectively, translated into 8 regional languages (including a version in Nepali) have been launched. Where relevant, audio and video recordings for family carers and brief videos highlight important information or skills patients and carers can use to improve long term outcomes of care. For instance, one of the videos teaches parents to palpate the spleen of a child so that they can mark a growth that is abnormal and seek immediate help before it turns sinister. An online version of both the toolkits with links to extra resources is available online, and accessible free of charge across the globe (<http://ashwini.org/programs/sickle-cell-centre/>)

At the toolkit launch, Sangeeta Chattoo said, ‘As an academic, it is not often that one can see the potential positive impact of research. It has been a great team to work with and worth every bit of angst and all the hard work that has gone into it over the years’.

Research Highlights and Updates

Epidemic response and mpox as a public health emergency of international concern

Hayley MacGregor (IDS/Sussex) co-led an ESRC funded project on mpox in Nigeria with the University of Ibadan. This was linked to the Social Science in Humanitarian Action Platform which is based at IDS and focuses on providing social science insights in health emergencies.

The multi-country mpox outbreak amongst men who have sex with men in non-endemic countries led to the declaration of a public health emergency of international concern in July 2022. In the UK, the mpox response mobilised activist organisations and those focused on access to HIV care. In Nigeria, the patterns of disease have been more heterogeneous, with a wide variety of people affected. As part of this project, Megan Schmidt-Sane, a CORTH member, worked with the University of Lagos to explore the situation of mpox amongst MSM in Lagos. The heterogeneity of the outbreak in Nigeria and the criminalisation of same sex activity suggest that the international framing of mpox as an 'STI' is problematic in Nigeria and could have unintended negative consequences. People with untreated HIV are particularly vulnerable to severe mpox but data in Nigeria regarding co-infections are very limited and a targeted response such as vaccination requires sensitive approaches due to stigmatisation. An international webinar raised points about how to address diverse experiences of disease and differences in regional priorities in pandemic preparedness and response. A blog, photostory and comic produced by the team raised some of the ethical concerns related to questions of prioritisation and access to vaccines, in the context of challenges to disease detection and care infrastructures. The research has attracted widespread interests, including from WHO and the US CDC.



Matriset project meeting in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

MATRASET Project Update

Astrid Blystad (University of Bergen) reports on the progress on the Research Council of Norway-funded MATRASET project (2021-2026) which is an interdisciplinary initiative exploring institutional routines, legal frameworks and accountability processes in maternal health, with a prime focus on maternal death surveillance in Ethiopia and Tanzania.

A little over a year after the official start-up workshop in Dar es Salaam in May 2022, six PhDs, one post-doctoral and one research track candidate in medicine are presently engaged

in their data collection or are about to move to the field. In a context of a global politicisation of maternal death data, **the four candidates from medicine and public health** (Ali Said, MUHAS, Kerstin Almdal, UiB, Tezera Berheto, AAU and Kornelia Herstad, UiB) are studying the mechanisms of maternal death reporting in Tanzania and Ethiopia. The projects focus on dynamics between differing maternal death surveillance systems and the ways in which maternal death data are generated at clinical level and flow between health institutions or within the health administrative system and with what outcomes for data quality.

The **three PhD candidates in the social sciences** (Latifa Mohamed, UDSM; Asabneh Molla, AAU; Kaja Skoftedalen, UiB) are researching diverse aspects of community members' encounters with the maternal health system, including the handling and follow up of birth calamity. The **PhD candidate from law** (Mulu Kidanemariam, UiB) is analysing the challenges of maternal death reporting in contexts of weak health worker protection laws.

South-North supervisory and mentoring teams are based at University of Bergen, University of Sussex (CORTH), University of Dar es Salaam, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences, University of Addis Ababa and Ethiopian Public Health Institute. Researchers will undertake short courses and visits to partner universities. Supervisors and mentors will also make short trips to support ongoing field-research.



Matriset PhD students from Ethiopia and Tanzania visit Bergen, Norway.

Gender, HIV and COVID-19

A two-year project, led by **Beth Mills (Global Studies, University of Sussex)** and funded by the British Academy/Leverhulme.

This two-year project builds on emerging research by the WHO in 2020 to collect and collate standardised clinical data from people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19. Findings from a preliminary analysis of data from in 37 countries found that, when controlling for other factors, people with HIV were 30% more likely to die from COVID-19 (WHO, 2021). A population-based analysis of 3.5 million people from South Africa, living in the Western Cape Province specifically, found that people with HIV were twice as likely to die from COVID-19 than those who were not living with HIV (Boulle et al., 2021). COVID-19 has not only revealed heightened vulnerability to mortality among people with HIV, but it has also weakened hard-won HIV testing and treatment programmes throughout Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), and within South Africa. Compared to 2019, HIV testing programmes in 12 countries in SSA dropped by 22% in 2020 (The Global Fund, 2021). HIV treatment programmes have also been impacted by COVID-19 in SSA, with research showing a significant decline in the number of pregnant women able to access HIV treatment to prevent transmission of HIV to their babies (ibid).

The project aims to bring together insights on the medical and socio-economic intersections of gender, HIV and COVID-19 in South Africa. The medical intersections and corresponding policy approaches will be explored through interviews with national and local public health actors. The nature of the socio-economic intersections will be explored through interviews with a people living with HIV. Working to link health policy and practice, this project aims to generate evidence that moves beyond disciplinary silos and looks at connections between public health responses to HIV and COVID-19 and the complex socio-economic context in which HIV-positive women are navigating their everyday lives.

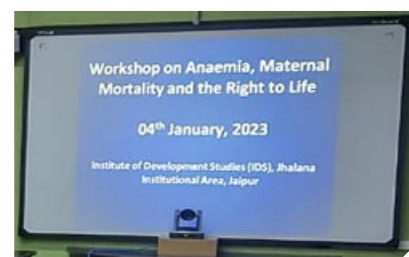


Anaemia and Maternal Mortality

Collaborative Workshop with Health-based NGOs, Reproductive Policy Makers and Medical and Community Health Practitioners in India, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Jaipur 3-4th January, 2023

A two day collaborative workshop on 'Anaemia and Maternal Mortality' was organized by Prayas (Chhaya Pachauli), IDS-

Jaipur (Shobhita Rajagopal) and CORTH (Maya Unnithan) on the 3rd and 4th of January 2023, at Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur. Experts on reproductive, maternal



and child health from research institutions, government organizations, medical and community health practitioners and civil societies of Rajasthan participated in the discussions. The first day was devoted to in-depth discussion with the India project partners involved in working on the National Institute for Health and Care Research-NIHR) proposal 'Strengthening Health Interventions on Maternal Anaemia Among Young Mothers in LMIC (Lower-Middle Income Countries)'. This was followed on the second day hearing from a wide range of state policy makers as well as key NGOs on three critical issues: i) Why anaemia continues to pose a serious threat to life, survival and reproductive health of women and girls in India, despite long established anaemia mitigation programs and rights-based frameworks, ii) the kinds of interventions required that can help realize effective anaemia prevention and mitigation, and iii) how a mixed method research approach contributes to strengthening state and non-state institutional capacity to address the pervasive condition of anaemia among women and their children.

CORTH Fora, Discussions and Webinars

We have had a very active year with stimulating conversations and webinars with speakers from our global network of members. We will continue to run our events in-person and online going forward to make our discussions more open and accessible. You can view our event recordings via our website and YouTube channel.

CORTH Fora

Doctoral Forum

19TH OCTOBER 2022

The CORTH doctoral Forum was held on 19 October as a hybrid event. As always, it provided an opportunity for lively discussion. We welcomed participation from approximately 20 people, online and in person. Doctoral and master's students from IDS, Global Studies and Law, as well as from the University of Bergen spoke about the focus of their research. We held this as a roundtable open forum, providing space for informal input and the opportunity to connect with other researchers at different career stages. A few doctoral researchers doing fieldwork joined online. In the Forum we also discussed the digital health research at Sussex and opportunities to join the network. We currently have students from across campus and the medical school who are members and doctoral students can contact CORTH to join the forum.

Gender Constitutionalism and Reproductive Rights in Asia: Comparative Reflections

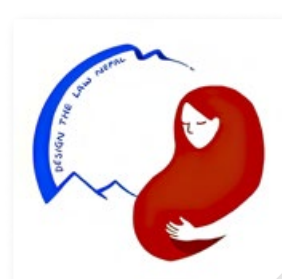
Mara Malagodi – University of Warwick

23RD NOVEMBER 2022

In her seminar Dr Malagodi showed how the challenges and opportunities of gender constitutionalism explain the extent

to which constitutional law and litigation have provided an adequate venue to advance gender equality claims across Asia. In particular, the focus on the constitutional framing of reproductive rights seeks to illuminate questions about the relationship between gender constitutionalism and national

identity. The nature of these rights, their extent and degree of implementation represent politically contested terrain. In practice, deeply patriarchal social mores have for centuries shaped the legal structures regulating reproduction and patrolling sexuality. These legal frameworks have been historically designed to maintain control over women's bodies, preserve patriarchal social hierarchies, and reinforce both the gender binary and heteronormativity. A comparative analysis of the constitutional treatment of sexual and reproductive rights in several Asian jurisdictions reveals a spectrum of approaches, which reflect a combination of nationalist, cosmopolitan, and pragmatic responses to demands for change in these areas. These questions were explored in a comparative perspective and through an indepth case-study, that of Nepal, one of the



few pioneering jurisdictions in the world in which reproductive rights are explicitly enshrined in the text of the constitution and attempts are underway to decriminalise abortion entirely via constitutional litigation.

Towards Accountable Health Data Production

Mulu Beyene Kidanemariam University of Bergen)

Chair: Helen Dancer (Sussex Law)

16TH NOVEMBER 2022

Event Co-sponsored by Centre for Rights and Anti Colonial Justice

In his presentation Mulu Kindanemariam talked about the extent to which Maternal Death Surveillance and Response (MDSR) system, a health program that seeks to help countries capture maternal mortality and its causes, can serve as an accountability mechanism. By exploring the defused meanings of accountability, he suggests that its use in human rights discourse better captures the essence and objectives of the MDSR. Accordingly, Mulu calls attention to the facts that the health program, beyond serving as a technical tool to count maternal death and identify causes, should be treated as a human rights accountability mechanism, as it provides information to the public regarding the magnitude and reasons why women are dying while giving birth; avails stakeholders to seek explanation for the failure from the concerned state, and by doing so serves as an avenue to incorporate corrective measures in line with state obligations under relevant human rights norms.

Going Childfree in India – The good, the bad and the ugly **Dr Sreeparna Chattopadhyay FLAME University, Pune**

7TH DECEMBER 2022

There is limited research on why urban, educated individuals may choose not to have children in India – a country that is perceived to be highly pro-natalist. Neo Malthusian concerns around population explosion continue to be foregrounded in public discourse and state policies on family planning, despite fertility rates dipping to replacement level for the country, and below replacement levels in several Indian states. Sreeparna's research explores the reasons why urban, educated individuals are "choosing" to be childfree in India. She used two organising concepts in this talk – "disruptions" explore the extent to which not biologically procreating has the potential to challenge dominant and entrenched norms around reproduction; "continuities" allow us to examine the extent to which these groups and individuals may be reinforcing existing norms and belief systems. The discursive and material practices of childfree groups and individuals are nuanced and complex – they defy compartmentalisation into binaries such as progressive/regressive, modern/primitive, local/global, and religious/secular, an allegory for a nation that is undergoing massive transformation, both aided and impeded by the techno-material practices of its citizens.



Body Objects: Sculptural Practice as Result and Method of Care, 1965–1980

Ryann Donnelly, Sussex University

Chair: Natalia Cecire, Sussex University

8TH FEBRUARY 2023



In this seminar, Ryann shared her research on the way women have imagined and cared for the body through sculptural practice. Looking at artistic representations of the relationship between the body, health and medical institutions, Ryann interrogated feminine corporeality.

Dripping latex and stretched nylons were among the experimental materials that signalled an aesthetic turn in European and American sculptural practices starting in the late 1960s. Examples of this work include Eva Hesse's *Right After* (1970), Senga Nengudi's *RSVP* series (1977), and Alina Szapocznikow's *Dessert II* (1970-71). Objects became corporeal: they responded to gravity in ways suggestive of exhaustion, offered sensual form, and confronted viewers with the ephemerality of the body through viscosity and deterioration. Ryann's research analyses the objects by women within that movement, which explore the body after having received institutional medical care. She argues that in these works, art-making served as a way to re-claim the body from illness and institutions, and also acted as a therapeutic strategy of personal care. These effects both extend and trouble the unprecedented advances in women's health care that were made in the same period. Examples include wider access to contraceptive pills and abortion, advances in the treatment of breast cancer, and the emergence of the Women's Health Movement, which developed out of Feminist activism to encourage women to have greater personal knowledge about, and agency over their bodies.

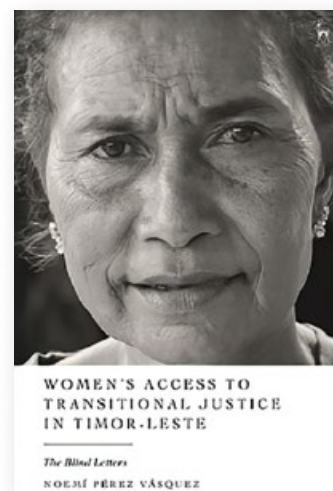
CORTH Conversation

Access to Transitional Justice in Timor-Leste **Noemí Pérez Vásquez, SOAS** **Chair and Discussant: Anita Ferrara, Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway**

20TH FEBRUARY 2023

The conversation between Noemi and Anita drew upon Noemi's book *Women's Access to Transitional Justice in Timor-Leste*. This book delivers a panoramic assessment of access to transitional justice from a gender perspective.

Dealing with conflict, justice and women, it first shows how the different barriers and discriminatory layers in the laws, policies, community and family practices that affect women in their access to trials, truth commissions and reparations,



hamper women's ability to participate in these gendered justice processes. Going beyond the focus on sexual violence and by including veterans' pensions as part of the mechanisms of transitional justice, the book also argues that transitional justice leads to new socio-economic structures that downplay women's recognition of their rights and produce long-term consequences in times of peace. Transitional justice may thus exacerbate the invisibility of and discrimination against women during both the process of implementation and later in the country's reconstruction and development phase. In summary, empirical evidence drawn from interviews with female participants in its post-conflict reconciliations and reparations mechanisms, as well as from judges and prosecutors, gives a fascinating insight into precisely how justice was served.

Inspired by the work of Hannah Arendt, with a post-colonial theoretical component and based on extensive field research in Timor-Leste, this book has larger implications for the overarching debate on the social consequences of transitional justice.

The Country, the City, and Gender Identity: Land, Migration, and Rural Imaginaries

Svati Shah, UMASS, USA

Chair: Paul Boyce, Sussex University

13TH MARCH 2023

In her talk examined the idea of the rural in relation to contemporary queer and trans postcolonial theory and ethnographic critique. As LGBTQI+ movements and visibility in South Asia and Africa gain momentum, these spaces also take shape as urban, developmentalist, and, in some respects, homonationalist, homocapitalist, and majoritarian. These discursive turns have profound implications for anti-democratic governance and battles over historical memory and indigeneity. In order to address these implications, the talk reads works from South Asia and Southern Africa on land rights and political economy as sites of a potentially countervailing theory of the rural and non-urban for postcolonial queer and trans theory. Interlocutors of land rights in the Global South are understood here as opening the terrain for debate on the historical production of binary gender and normative social reproduction by questioning the ways in which theories of land use and taxation under colonialism often take European industrial development as their key referent. Svati suggests that reading these works alongside new discourses of queer and trans life South Asia and Southern Africa offer opportunities to complicate the ways in which sexuality and gender politics and subjectivity are configured in relation to non-urban time and world making.

Surrogacy in Russia: An Ethnography of Reproductive Labour, Stratification and Migration

Christina Weis (De Montfort University)

Chair and Discussant: Anindita Mazumdar, IIT Hyderabad, India

29TH MARCH 2023

This timely and fascinating feminist ethnography is the first of its kind to focus on commercial surrogacy workers in Russia and from other countries of the former Soviet Union. Examining surrogacy workers' reproductive labour, and experiences

of stratification and migration, the study presents innovative insights into current research on global surrogacy practices and travels for assisted reproduction. It links to wider fields of studies, such as ethnicity, feminism, women's and gender studies in the post-Soviet sphere.

Weis expertly brings together rigorous ethnographic research, feminist debates and anthropological theory to explore the attributed significance of origin, citizenship, race, ethnicity and religion, and the cultural framing and social organization of surrogacy as an economic exchange; thereby challenging and contributing to the discourse of surrogacy as a gift, a labour of love, a maternal sacrifice or work.

Tracing surrogacy workers' journeys for surrogacy work across Russia, Weis introduces geographic and geopolitical stratifications as two new lenses of stratified reproduction to analyse how surrogacy in Russia builds on and propels surrogacy workers' mobility and results in reproductive migrations.

Given the rapid global increase in the use of surrogacy and its increasingly internationalised nature, Weis's research has implications for surrogacy users, medical practitioners and regulators, as well as researchers concerned with (cross-border) surrogacy, reproductive stratifications and reproductive justice.

Genital Cutting Across Borders: Sociocultural Biases in Global Responses to the Non-Therapeutic Genital Cutting of Children

Debra DeLaet, Drake University, US

Chair: Ruth Fletcher, Queen Mary University of London

3RD MAY 2023

This seminar discussed divergent international responses to cross-cultural genital cutting practices, including female genital cutting (FGC), male genital cutting (MGC), and intersex genital cutting (IGC). A growing body

of interdisciplinary scholarship challenges all forms of non-therapeutic genital cutting performed on children. There also has been an expansion of transnational human rights advocacy on this issue. The global political contestation of genital cutting practices involves potential conflicts between parental rights and children's rights, tensions between religious and secular conceptions of rights, and social constructions of gender that entrench cross-cultural beliefs in a male/female binary and that are more likely to depict girls and women as victims. In contrast with broad global condemnation of FGC, there has been minimal global criticism of MGC practices. The global response



to IGC has been mixed. These divergent global responses to genital cutting practices reveals sociocultural biases that lead international actors to defer to parental rights and cultural considerations in some cases but not others. This seminar reviewed the competing human rights issues at stake in these debates. It also raised questions about how global responses to genital cutting connect to political debates regarding gender affirming care for transgender children.

De-Gendering Pregnancy

Gillian Love and Maria Federica Moscati

17TH MAY 2023

This critical and timely event was organised jointly by the Centre for Gender Studies and CORTH at Sussex, Mr Craig Lind and Dr Philip Bremner (Royal Holloway). The roundtable brought together a range of academics from different disciplines, and members of the community and health providers to discuss the possibilities for the law to better serve trans parents and uncouple pregnancy, childbirth, and motherhood. The discussion developed around the following questions: How might we de-gender pregnancy and childbirth in law, medicine, and beyond? Is this desirable? What would

mean for law and society to accommodate men who give birth? How does institutional and administrative violence affect the lives of trans parents and their children? How might law learn from other disciplines on these questions?

Recognition of Parenthood and Surrogacy at the ECtHR: A Fair Balancing of Interests?

Carmelo Danisi, University of Bologna

6TH JUNE 2023

In this seminar Dr Danisi developed a comparative analysis of the case law of the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the EU concerning the recognition of parenthood of children who were born through surrogacy. He addressed two main questions: is the ECtHR's balancing of interests in surrogacy-related cases really fair? And can a different human rights' approach to recognition of parenthood established via surrogacy be envisaged? Dr Danisi concluded that the CJEU tried indeed to provide a meaningful solution for such families while respecting the EU member States' own competences in fields, like family law, that are not covered by EU law.

CORTH Publication Highlights

Here we provide a selection of recent publications from CORTH members

Deevia Bhana, Mary Crewe, **Peter Aggleton** eds. 2022. *Sex, Sexuality and Sexual Health in Southern Africa*. London: Routledge

Natalie Edelman, Whetham, J, Cassell, JA, de Visser, R, Mercer, C, Jones, C, Gersten, A & Bremner, S 2020, 'Performance of a tool to identify different types of self-reported sexual risk among women attending a contraception and sexual health clinic: results of a cross-sectional survey', *BMJ Sexual & Reproductive Health*.

Angela Kelly-Hanku, **Peter Aggleton**, Anne Malcolm eds. 2023. *Sex and Gender in the Pacific: Contemporary Perspectives on Sexuality, Gender and Health*. London: Routledge

Maya Unnithan, **Chhaya Pachauli**, **Sangeeta Chattoo** & Karl Atkin (2023) 'Only parents can understand the problems and needs of children with thalassaemia': parental activism for thalassaemia care in Northern India, *Anthropology & Medicine*, 30:1, 48-63, DOI: 10.1080/13648470.2023.2180258



Noemí Pérez Vásquez, & **Liiri Oja**. (2023). A Change of Narrative: Protecting Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Post-Conflict Criminal Justice. *Columbia Journal of Gender and Law*, 43(1), 31–66. <https://doi.org/10.52214/cjgl.v43i1.10717>

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- School of Public Health, John Hopkins University, USA
- School of humanities, Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad
- Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (Women's University), Tirupati, India
- Centre for Social Research in Health, UNSW, Australia
- JP Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, Bangladesh
- FAGES, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Brazil
- University of Brasilia, Brazil
- Dept. of Midwifery, The University of British Columbia
- Department of Anthropology, Simon Fraser University, Canada
- Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic
- University of Cape Coast, Ghana
- University of Ghana, Legon
- Concern Worldwide, UK
- Anthropolos India Foundation
- Centre for Health and Social Justice, New Delhi, India
- SAHAYOG Lucknow, India
- PRAYAS, Chittorgarh, India
- Public Health Foundation India
- Jhpiego, Ethiopia
- Action Research and Training in Health, Udaipur, India
- Copasah, Centre for Health and Social Justice, Delhi, India
- Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur, India
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- Department of Sociology, University of Delhi, India
- Global Health Anthropology, University of Bergen, Norway
- African Centre for Migration & Society, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
- Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland
- Mahidol University, Thailand
- Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Mount Holyoke College, USA
- Department of Medical Anthropology, University of Arizona, USA
- FXB Centre for Health and Human Rights, Harvard, USA
- Kushal India, Andhra Pradesh, India.
- Development Solutions Inc, New Delhi, India
- MATCH (Midwifery and Toronto Community Health) Program at South Riverdale Community Health Centre, Canada
- University of Heidelberg
- Department of Law, University of Exeter
- Women's Health, King's College London
- Global Health, King's College, UK
- South Asia Institute, SOAS
- Department of Anthropology, University of Manchester
- Centre for Law and Human Rights, University of Essex
- Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge
- Gender and Health Group, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
- Oxford Fertility, Reproduction and Sexuality Research Group, University of Oxford
- Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Oxford
- Centre for Intimate and Sexual Citizenship (CISC), Department of Sociology, University of Essex
- Sexual Health 24 (SH:24), UK
- Department of Anthropology and Global Health, University of Durham
- Department of Geography and Environmental Sciences, University of Reading
- Department of Health Sciences, University of York
- Department of Health Services Research and Policy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- Research Department of Infection & Population Health, UCL Institute for Global Health
- Coastal Creatives Brighton UK
- Reproductive Sociology Research Group, University of Oxford
- Academic Podcast Agency
- Public Health England
- Department for Health and Social Care

UK Connections

- King's College, School of Global Affairs, London
- Oxford Human Rights hub
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UK
- Institute for International Health and Development, Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh
- Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals
- Grand Network, Global Health Public Policy, School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh



Corth members at Pushing Pads workshop in Bergen, Norway, August 2022.

CORTH Members

Senior Research Associates and Advisors

- Prof. Peter Aggleton (Centre for Social Research in Health, The University of New South Wales, Australia)
- Dr. Paula Baraitser (King's College Hospital; and Department of Global Health, King's College London, UK)
- Prof. Gillian Bendelow (Sociology of Health & Medicine, University of Brighton, UK)
- Marge Berer (International Campaign for Women's Right to Safe Abortion)
- Prof. Susan Bewley (Complex Obstetrics, King's College London, UK)
- Prof. Jan Brunson (Department of Anthropology, University of Hawaii, USA)
- Urvashi Butalia (Zubann Books)
- Dr. Abhijit Das (Centre for Health and Social Justice, New Delhi, India; Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Global Health, University of Washington, USA)
- Jashodhara Dasgupta (Coordinator SAHAYOG Lucknow, India)
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- Prof. Ursula Rao (University of Leipzig, Germany)
- Prof. Shobhita Rajagopal (Director, Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur, India)
- Prof. Shalini Randeria (Rector, Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, Austria; Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland)

- Prof. Anna Robinson-Pant (School of Education & Lifelong Learning, University of East Anglia, UK)
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- Prof. Parry Scott (Universidade Federal de Pernambuco)
- Prof. Sally Sheldon (Kent Law School, UK)
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- Dr. Sally Theobald (Gender and Health Group, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK)
- Dr. Soraya Tremayne (Fertility, Reproduction and Sexuality Research Group (FRSG), Oxford University, UK and ISCA and Journal of Middle East Women's Studies)
- Prof. Saraswathi Vedam (Professor of Midwifery and Lead Investigator of the Birth Place Lab, University of British Columbia)
- Prof. Ayo Wahlberg (Department of Anthropology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark)
- Dr. Alicia Yamin (Director, Health and Rights of Women and Children, FXB Harvard School of Public Health)

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- Zula Afawork (Jhpiego, Ethiopia)
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- Dr. Sajida Ally (Queen Mary, University of London)
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- Prof. Sreeparna Chattopadhyay (Ramalingaswami Centre on Equity and Social Determinants of Health at the Public Health Foundation of India)
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- Dr. Silvia De Zordo (Universitat de Barcelona)

Internal Graduates and Associates

- Neemah Ahamed (Research Student, School of Law, Politics and Sociology)
- Laurence Oluwakemi Abisoye Ajayi (Law)
- Rebecca Ashley (Global studies)
- Isabelle Villwock Bachtold (Institute of Development Studies)
- Zuhra Bahman (Global Studies)
- Shreya Viswanath Basu (IDS)
- Lavinia Bertini (Global Studies)
- Jean Paul Bikorimana (BSMS)
- Sophie Collins (Global Studies and IDS)
- Laura Del Duca (IDS)
- Ebru Demir (LPS)
- Natalie Edelman (BSMS)
- Hasarali Fernando (BSMS)
- Diego Garcia (BSMS)
- Patti Gonsalves (Psychology)
- Annabelle Inman (Doctoral student in Anthropology),
- Eleanor Kashouris (Doctoral student in Sociology)

- Linn Lövgren (Global Studies),
- Fernanda Meira (Visiting Fellow, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco)
- Larissa Mulka (BSMS)
- Anyesha Nandi (Institute of Development Studies)
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- Megan Schmidt Sane (IDS)
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- Bella Tomsett (BSMS/Brighton) **NEW**
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- Maria Wardale (Global Studies)
- Florence Waruguru Wanjiku (LPS)
- Rosie Wigmore (Development Reimagined)
- Cassandra Anna Mary Wiener (LPS)
- Elaney Youssef (BSMS)
- Anushka Zafar (IDS and Global Studies)

External Graduates

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- Leah Eades (University of Edinburgh)
- Mounia El Konti (University at Albany, USA)
- Thea de Gruchy (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)
- Marte Haaland (Centre for International Health, University of Bergen)
- Patricia Hamilton (Western University, Canada)
- Verena Kozmann (University of Vienna)
- Elo Luik (ISCA, Oxford, UK)
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