



Australian
National
University



QUEER DISPLACEMENTS:
SEXUALITY, MIGRATION AND EXILE

13 - 15 NOVEMBER 2019

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to show our respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, of Elders past, present and emerging, on which this event takes place.

This event is presented by the ANU Humanities Research Centre, Research School of Humanities and the Arts.

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- the ANU Research School of Humanities
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Official hashtag: #QueerDisplacements

WELCOME

Despite improvements in human rights in some contexts, around the world many LGBTIQ+ people are still subjected to discrimination, violence, torture, imprisonment or death for simply being who they are. In many cases, the only way to survive is to flee, seeking asylum in other countries. However, the journey to safety is never easy. The right to seek asylum is under attack. It's being replaced by the discourse of securitisation and border management. The language of people and human rights is being eroded. Refugees are no longer assumed to be telling the truth. To draw on anthropologist Didier Fassin, their traumas must be proven with visible scars, their stories must be corroborated by experts and in a hostile environment like this, the plight of LGBTIQ+ asylum remains even more marginalised.

Not only are LGBTIQ+ people fleeing from persecution inflicted by various actors in their countries of origin, but they are also experiencing further violence: en route, in camps, detention centres and even in countries that promised a safe harbour. Their sex, gender identity and sexual orientation are scrutinised and not believed by immigration officials. They are subjected to harmful and unnecessary tests to prove who they are. They are still forced to live in closets when the only way to survive in asylum is to rely on ethnic community support. Homophobia, biphobia, transphobia and queerphobia are still really there.

Racism is still alive. Heteronormativity is thriving. LGBTIQ+ asylum is still a rare debate in public discourses on asylum. When those narratives exist, they are often one-sided. LGBTIQ+ refugees are portrayed as a minority within a minority. Their stories of an oppressive past are craved for. Their victimhood is paraded. Their gratefulness is desired. Their pride and coming out are demanded. A Western way of living queerness is imposed with no possibility for alternatives. It's time we change that. *Queer Displacements: Sexuality, Migration and Exile* is an inaugural conference to discuss the issues of LGBTIQ+ asylum in its complexity. It aims to centre the voices of LGBTIQ+ people seeking asylum and people from refugee backgrounds at the forefront of the discussion. It takes the lived experience as a starting point for this conversation. A lived experience of queer forced displacement is a source of expert knowledge.

This is not just a story of the past. Displacement does not stop at the point of border crossing or even when a visa is granted. It is ongoing. These experiences have the capacity to inform policy, practice and research. Meaningful engagement with people who face displacement must be a best practice principle in any of those spheres. This conference brings together academics, activists, policymakers and people with the lived experience to learn, share, discuss, coordinate and improve access to support and justice for those who are living queer forced displacement.

We are so proud that with the generous support of many organisations and individuals we were able to sponsor 22 LGBTIQ+ people seeking asylum and people from refugee backgrounds to be with us at this conference. We hope that this is just the beginning of a conversation that will grow into an ongoing dialogue. It is time we all come together to champion the voices of LGBTIQ+ people from refugee backgrounds and support them to make real and sustainable changes in their lives.

SCHEDULE

Wednesday 13 November

5.30 - 7.30pm

PANEL

Conference Room (1.02)

LGBTIQ Refugees: Erasure, Silencing and Heteronormativity

Professor Eithne Luibheid, University of Arizona

Lilith Raza, Project: Queer Refugees Deutschland, Lesbian and Gay Federation Germany

Renee Dixon, PhD Candidate, Australian National University

Azlan AP, Organiser and Campaigner, Democracy in Color

Thursday 14 November

8.00 - 9.00am

REGISTRATION

Tea and coffee upon arrival

9.00 - 11.30am

Conference Room (1.02)

WELCOME TO THE CONFERENCE

Acknowledgement of Country

Associate Professor Samia Goudie, University of Canberra

Official ANU Welcome

Professor Kylie Message, Senior Fellow, ANU Humanities Research Centre

Professor Fiona Jenkins, ANU Gender Institute Convenor, Associate Professor, School of Philosophy

David Momcilovic, ACT Government Office for LGBTIQ+ Affairs

UNHCR Canberra Office Welcome

Kate O'Malley, UNHCR Multi-Country Representation based in Canberra

Conference Convenors' Opening Remarks

Tina Dixon, ANU, Queer Sisterhood Project

Renee Dixon, ANU, Queer Sisterhood Project

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

Conference Room (1.02)

Telling to Transform: LGBTQI Migrants Protest Detention

Professor Eithne Luibheid, University of Arizona

Project: Queer Refugees Deutschland

Lilith Raza, Project: Queer Refugees Deutschland, Lesbian and Gay Federation, Germany

11.30am - 12.00pm

COFFEE BREAK

SCHEDULE

12.00 - 1.30pm

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Theatrette (2.02)

SESSION 1: International Policy and LGBTIQA+ Refugees

International Co-operation and Solidarity with LGBTIQ+ Refugees

Kate O'Malley, UNHCR Multi-Country Representation based in Canberra

Silence Written in Policy: Global Compact on Refugees and LGBTIQA+ Persons

Tina Dixson, Australian National University

Global Compact on Migration and LGBTIQA Refugees and Migrants

Carolina Gottardo, Jesuit Refugee Service Australia

The Yogyakarta Principles Plus 10: Advocacy Opportunities at the National, Regional and International Level

Paul Dillane, London School of Economics and Political Science

Conference Room (1.02)

SESSION 2: Colonial Impositions: Ideal, Deserving and Vulnerable Subjects

We Name Ourselves: Beyond Dispossession, Displacement and Erasure

Associate Professor Samia Goudie, University of Canberra

Not Queer Enough? The Imposition of a 'Western' Cultural Understanding of 'Queer Identity' on the Credibility of Asylum Seekers in the Netherlands

Lotte Wolff, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

"Had I Raised the ISIS Flag, I Wouldn't Be Facing Half of What I Am Facing Now." The Homosexual Homo Sacer as the Ideal Subject of Orientalist Asylum Regimes: The Mashrou' Leila Affair In Egypt

Julie Youssef, University of Melbourne

Saving' Gays in the Former Metropole: Tracing the Pattern of Queer Persecution in Formerly Colonised Nations

Lotte Wolff, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Unsettling LGBT Resettlement: Queer Vulnerability and the Politics of 'Deservingness' in Lebanon and Turkey

Aydan Greatrick, University College London

Seminar Room 1 (3.02)

INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

Moving Forward in Cultivating an Inclusive Organisation

Justine Harris, Susan Cameron-Jung, Christin Winata, Settlement Services International (60 mins)

1.30 - 2.30pm

LUNCH

Lunch event: *Launch of the African LGBTQI+ Migration Research Network (ALMN)*, Conference Room

SCHEDULE

2.30 - 4.00pm

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Theatrette (2.02)

SESSION 3: Documenting Experiences: Art, History and Ethics of Storytelling

A Digital Archive of LGBTIQ Oral Histories about Forced Migration
Renee Dixon, Australian National University

Beyond the 'Liberation' Narrative: the Ethics and Politics of Representing LGBTIQ+ Migration within and from the African Continent

John Marnell, African Centre for Migration and Society, University of the Witwatersrand

Homosexuality and Australian Borders: Refugees in the Margins of Gay Community Immigration Activism, 1980s Onwards
Annalise Humphris, Macquarie University

The Costs of Trauma Storytelling: Reflections of a Queer Refugee through Creative Practice

Kavita Gonsalves, Queensland University of Technology
Rasel Ahmed, Columbia University

Seminar Room 1 (3.02)

SESSION 4: Queer Forced Displacement and the Law

Protection Visas and LGBTIQ+ Claims
Sophie de Rohan, Refugee Legal

Denied Dignity: Assessing Protection Claims Based on Sexual and Gender Identity

Hannah Gray, Refugee Advice and Casework Service

Intake and Inclusion: Asking the Right Questions and Listening to Queer Refugees

Niamh Joyce, HIV/AIDS Legal Centre

Conference Room (1.02)

SESSION 5: Spotlight on Climate Change

SOGIE Pacific Perspectives on Climate Displacement, Climate Migration and Current Refugee Law and Climate Change Policies

Ken Moala, Pacific Sexual & Gender Diversity Network, ILGA Oceania in conversation with Joseph Zane Sikulu, Pacific Climate Change Warrior, Pacific Project Coordinator, 350.org.

Spoken Word Performance: Amoa Leota Lu, Samoan-Australian Fa'afafine Performer, Director, Gender Equality and Culture, Planet Ally

4.05 - 5.15PM

PLENARY SESSION

Conference Room (1.02)

Trying to Walk On and Walk Strong: Reflections from Our LGBTIQ Peer Support Group for Asylum Seekers

LGBTIQ peer-run group for asylum seekers, Sydney

DAY 1 CLOSE

5.30PM

RECEPTION

SCHEDULE

Friday 15 November

8.00 - 9.00AM

REGISTRATION

9.00 - 10.20AM

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

Conference Room (1.02)

Rainbow Path

Eliana Rubashkyn, Rainbow Path, New Zealand

Transgender Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Predicaments, Precarity and Possibility

Dr B Camminga, African Centre for Migration & Society, Wits University, South Africa

10.20 - 11.30AM

PLENARY SESSION

Conference Room (1.02)

LGBTIQA+/Refugee Community Dialogue Session

11.30AM - 12.00PM

COFFEE BREAK

12.00 - 1.30PM

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Conference Room (1.02)

SESSION 6: Policy, Advocacy and Activism

'These Walls Must Fall': LGBTI+ Lives in Immigration Detention

Paul Dillane, London School of Economics and Political Science

Hanged, Drawn and Quartered. Patriotism, Integration and Activism: Three Visits from the Ghost of Exile Past

Ariadna Hider

Plane Truths: Queer Protest Movements Pushing Back Against Involuntary Deportations

Bess Hepworth, Planet Ally

The Role of Philanthropy in Supporting LGBTIQ Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Honorary Associate Professor Ruth McNair AM, Dr Liz Rickman, Sarina Jackson, Pride Foundation

Seminar Room 1 (3.02)

SESSION 7: Intersectional Identities and Experiences

Intersectional Inclusivity: Navigating the Social Justice Space as People with Lived Experience Holding Multiple Identities

Azlan AP, Democracy in Color

Countering Islamic Conservatism on Transsexuality: an Auto-ethnography of Reclaiming my Trans-identity Through my Faith

Aisya Aymanee M. Zaharin, University of Queensland

Survival Migration: a Study of Central American Trans Women's Decision to Flee

Cristina de Nicolás Izquierdo, University of London

Disability, Sexuality and Refugee Status

Margherita Coppelino, Dominic Golding, National Ethnic Disability Alliance

SCHEDULE

Theatrette (2.02)

SESSION 8: Health, Sexuality and Forced Displacement

Sanctuary in Substance Abuse

Nic Robinson-Griffith, Thorne Harbour Health

Documenting the Social Consequences of Discrimination and Exclusion amongst LGBT Refugees in Kenya

Emanuel Munyarukumbuzi, James Maingi Gathatwa, Associate Professor
Margaret Jjuuko, University of Rwanda

Migrants' Experience with HIV: A Support Service Perspective

Greg McGuirk, AIDS Action Council

Resources and Referrals: Improving Health and Wellbeing Outcomes for LGBTIQ+ People from Refugee Background

Gianna Parma, True Relationships and Reproductive Health
Misha Emingerova, Diverse Identities Gather

1.30 - 2.30PM

LUNCH

2.30 - 4.00PM

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Seminar Room 1 (3.02)

SESSION 9: Inclusive Service Provision

Rainbow to Refuge: Bonding, Bridging and Leveraging Resources to Empower Queer Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Internally Displaced People

Ian Seal, THREE for All Foundation

Reflections on Queer, Peer-led Group Work in Precarious Contexts

Asylum Seekers Centre, NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors, Sydney

ACT in Kenya

Florence Wangari Maina, St Paul's University Kenya, Carolyn Minchin

Forced displacement of young gender and sexuality diverse folks: Social Support, Housing and Employment

Samia Sayed, Susan Farrar, Twenty10 inc GLCS NSW

Conference Room (1.02)

SESSION 10: Queer Forced Displacement and the Law

From Lives of Fear to Lives of Freedom - Ten Years On: A Review of Australian Refugee Decisions on the Basis Of LGBTI Status

Ghassan Kassisieh, Equality Australia

Condemned to Stereotypes: How the Australian Refugee Determination Process Discriminates Against People with Sexuality or Gender Identity Based Claims

Emily Singh, Asylum Seekers Resource Centre

The Production of a Globalised Transnormativity in Australian Refugee Determinations

Professor Nan Seuffert, Legal Intersections Research Centre School of Law, University of Wollongong

Queerness and Crimmigration: Cases of LGBTIQ+ Refugee Applications in the Australian Administrative Appeals Court

Dr Brandy Cochrane, Deakin University

4.00 - 4.30PM

CONFERENCE CLOSE

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Telling to Transform: LGBTQ Migrants Protest Detention

Eithne Luibhéid, University of Arizona, USA

Drawing on Kimberlé Crenshaw's framework of "lives that resist the telling," this talk centers a protest at an LGBTQ immigrant detention facility in California in 2016. It argues that the protest shows how violence and domination seek to make LGBTQ migrants' lives unlivable and their experiences untellable. Yet the protest, which highlighted LGBTQ migrants not just as targets of violent migration and asylum systems, but also as leaders in resisting, suggests rich possibilities for transformation.



Eithne Luibhéid is Professor of Gender and Women's Studies at the University of Arizona, USA. She holds a Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies from the University of California Berkeley, and her research focuses on the connections among queer lives, racialization processes, state immigration controls, and justice struggles. She served as the Director of the Institute for LGBT Studies at the University of Arizona from 2007-2011. Luibhéid is the author of *Pregnant on Arrival: Making the 'Illegal' Immigrant* (University of Minnesota Press, 2013) and *Entry Denied: Controlling Sexuality at the Border* (University of Minnesota Press, 2002). She is the editor of *Lives that Resist Telling: Migrant and Refugee Lesbians* (a special issue of *Journal of Lesbian Studies*, forthcoming 2020) and *Queer Migrations* (a special issue of *GLQ*, 2008). Luibhéid co-edited *Queer and Trans Migrations: 'Illegalization,' Detention, and Deportation* (University of Illinois Press, forthcoming 2020); *A Global History of Sexuality* (Wiley Blackwell, 2014); and *Queer Migrations: Sexuality, Citizenship, and Border Crossings* (University of Minnesota Press, 2005). She has held fellowships at the University of Texas, Austin and the University of Bristol.

Queer Refugees Deutschland

Lilith Raza, Project: Queer Refugees Deutschland, Lesbian and Gay Federation Germany

Since November 2017, there is the nationwide project "Queer Refugees Deutschland" of the Lesbian and Gay Association in Germany (LSVD), which is funded by the Integration Commissioner of the Federal Government. The two project managers Lilith Raza and Ina Wolf set up a national network for LGBTI refugee activists from the Federal Office in Cologne. The project page for refugees contains information on the subjects of flight, law, security, meeting places and counselling services throughout Germany in nine languages. Refugees, institutions and all who deal with LGBTI refugees are offered free counselling, training and support.

Upon request via WhatsApp, e-mail or telephone, the two project team members answer questions about the asylum procedure and draw on the legal expertise of the LSVD bundled in a detailed legal guide. Here, the project sees itself as a pilot project, that refers advice seekers to the nearest specialized advice centre.

The long-term goal of the project is, among other things, the establishment of a nationwide organization of LGBTI refugees, which Lilith Raza supervises. Under the slogans of empowerment, intersectionality, anti-racism work, team building and knowledge transfer. We want to create structures for LGBTI refugees who can participate politically and realize their own projects and ideas.



Lilith Raza is from Pakistan and works as a project manager for the "Queer Refugees Deutschland", a project of LSVD Germany since November 2017. The LSVD project "Queer Refugees Deutschland" connects, supports and advises LGBTI refugees and organizations working with them. She is a transwoman and is engaged with LGBTIQ refugees since 2015. She is living and working in Germany since October 2012. She has a Master's degree in Environmental Sciences with a focus on environmental change and migration. She has written a thesis on Climate Change Refugees of Kiribati Island.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Transgender Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Predicaments, Precarity and Possibility

B Camminga, African Centre for Migration and Society, Wits University, South Africa

'LGBT people fleeing Africa' to the 'West' has become a common media trope, often portraying a homogenous image of a brutal continent that places any expression of sexuality, read outside the bounds of heterosexuality, as patently 'unAfrican'. Responses to this, emanating from a variety of African voices, have provided a more nuanced reading of sexuality. What has been absent from these readings has been the role of gender identity/expression, particularly a consideration of trans experiences. In recent years, however, it has been trans people - as often the most visible elements attributed to lesbian and gay communities due to their gender non-conformity - who have borne the brunt of the backlash by some African states to both the concept of 'LGBT human rights' and perceived homosexuality. As a relatively recent phenomenon in the long history of African migration this movement of transgender people brings with it new social and cultural realities for both the countries they leave and the countries they arrive in. With a specific focus on the African continent I consider some of the fundamental issues affecting transgender refugees as they have come into visibility within the global asylum regime.



B Camminga (they/them) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the African Centre for Migration and Society, Wits University, SA. Their research interests include: trans migration, asylum and diaspora; the mobility and migration of trans people from the African region and trans history in South Africa. Their first monograph *Transgender Refugees & the Imagined South Africa: Bodies over Borders & Borders over Bodies* was published in 2019 (Palgrave). Their current book project, *Beyond the Mountain: Queer Life in Africa's 'Gay Capital'* (Unisa 2019) with Dr Zethu Matebeni, explores the conflicting iterations of race, sex, gender and sexuality that mark the city of Cape Town. They are the co-convenor of the African LGBTQI+ Migration Research Network (ALMN).

Rainbow Path

Eliana Rubashkyn, Rainbow Path, Aotearoa New Zealand

In January 2019, Rainbow Path New Zealand was created as an organisation for LGBTIQ+ asylum seekers and former refugees, with support from some LGBTIQ+ activist allies. Rainbow Path was created to be a peer support network that is chosen family / kaupapa whānau to each other and that shares its collective experiences to help Rainbow refugees and asylum seekers once they are in Aotearoa. Rainbow Path aim to support them to more easily navigate the complexities of accessing social, legal and health support here. This group is based in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland, meets monthly, networks with other Rainbow and refugee organisations and has been advocating for better access to health services, Rainbow-competency training for interpreters and those making decisions about refugee status claims, and for a temporary ID for trans people before they are eligible for legal gender recognition processes that are restricted to permanent residents.



Eliana Rubashkyn is a former refugee who arrived in 2014 to Aotearoa New Zealand as part of the United Nations refugee quota from China. Eliana was forcibly assigned at birth as male, but grew up aware of her intersex condition in a low-middle class neighbourhood of Bogota. Due to the violence that she experienced there she was forced to leave her Colombia to protect her life. Eliana suffered severe mistreatment at an airport in Hong Kong due to her ambiguous gender and appearance, after several attempts of deportation, Eliana applied for asylum and spent years as a refugee in multiple refugee camps in China and Hong Kong, and during these time in which she was not allowed to work, and study she mastered many languages including Mandarin. Eliana today speaks eight languages fluently.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

New Zealand accepted her as an exceptional case due to the harsh conditions she was living in Hong Kong. Eliana was the first case of gender recognition in the world with a U.N. resolution under the international refugee statute of 1951.

Eliana was stateless for 6 years, but during that time Eliana validated her studies in public health, pharmacy and chemistry, and today works as a chief scientist in a pharmaceutical company in Auckland, she is also an editor for the Harm Reduction Journal in the field of chemistry of addictions and nicotine replacement therapies.

In the beginning of 2019 Eliana co-founded a group named Rainbow Path New Zealand with other former refugees and LGBTIQ+ activists of New Zealand. This group was created with the intention to be a social group in which as a group with collective experience we aim to help other current rainbow refugees, rainbow asylum seekers, and former rainbow refugees, so they can easily navigate the complexities of the New Zealand social, legal and health systems, by providing space for meetings, peer-social support, and by advocating with rainbow refugee awareness campaigns tailored to NZ governmental and non-governmental organisations.

Eliana is also a board member of ITANZ, Intersex Trust of Aotearoa New Zealand.

ABSTRACTS

International Policy and LGBTIQ+ Refugees

Thursday 12:00-1:30 | PARALLEL SESSION 1 | Theatrette (2.02)

International Cooperation and Solidarity with LGBTIQ+ Refugees

Kate O'Malley, UNHCR Multi-Country Representation based in Canberra

How can solidarity in action create safe spaces, safe procedures and inclusive services for LGBTIQ+ people in forced displacement?

One year on from the historic affirmation of the Global Compact on Refugees, it is time to take stock of what has been achieved in the protection of LGBTIQ+ refugees around the world, and to identify the challenges that we continue to confront.

Recent decades have seen meaningful strides taken towards ensuring that people who face persecution on the basis of their non-conforming sexual orientation or gender identity are duly recognised as eligible for refugee status. Despite these advances, the root causes of LGBTIQ+ displacement have not gone away, and gaps in protection continue to put LGBTIQ+ refugees and asylum-seekers at risk. While it is often observed that same-sex relationships are criminalised in more than 70 countries, criminal sanctions represent only one of the risks faced by LGBTIQ+ people around the world. Violence, prejudice and inadequate protection from state authorities are far more widespread. Even for those whose journey leads to a place of safety and security, there is no country that is unaffected by homophobia, transphobia and biphobia. Ahead of the inaugural Global Refugee Forum in December 2019, UNHCR's Representative, Louise Aubin, will discuss the global prospects for strengthening cooperation and solidarity with LGBTIQ+ refugees and people seeking asylum.

Silence Written in Policy: Global Compact on Refugees and LGBTIQ+ persons

Tina Dixon, Australian National University

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants adopted in 2016 made a strong commitment to address multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and barriers for people in the forced displacement. Many hoped that these commitments will be directly translated into the text of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) namely that it will explicitly mention the specific protection needs of LGBTIQ people in forced displacement.

The outcome, however, was different. Despite a strong language on age, gender, diversity and disability, there is no mention of LGBTIQ people as a distinct group. On

the one hand, given that GCR was driven by UNHCR, one can rely on UNHCR documents and policy that recognise LGBTIQ persons as a distinct group with specific protection needs. On the other, a question arises: what does this omission tell us about the state of rights of LGBTIQ people in the world?

Global Compact on Migration and LGBTIQ+ Refugees and Migrants

Carolina Gottardo, Jesuit Refugee Service Australia

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) is a historic achievement as the first global instrument attempting to coordinate all areas of international migration. The GCM was adopted by 153 countries in December 2018, despite the prevalent populist and xenophobic narrative in different parts of the world. The GCM provides a framework to advance migrant's rights across the world. As a non-binding instrument, its success will depend on effective implementation. This presentation will focus on an analysis of the GCM from a gender and diversity intersectional perspective exploring whether the GCM adequately addresses the issues that LGBTIQ migrants and refugees face and identifying strengths, gaps and opportunities. The presentation will provide an analysis of the GCM as it relates to gender, sexual orientation and other forms of intersectional discrimination as part of a panel focusing on the international governance of migration and refugee issues.

The Yogyakarta Principles Plus 10: Advocacy Opportunities at the National, Regional and International Level

Paul Dillane, London School of Economics and Political Science

Launched in 2017, the Yogyakarta Principles plus 10 on the application of international human rights law in relation to sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics provide a universal framework in respect of the fundamental rights of LGBTI persons.

Adopted by 34 international experts following an intensive consultation and drafting process, YP plus 10 provide detailed provisions to ensure LGBTI persons seeking asylum are respected and protected and, ultimately, a powerful tool for use in litigation, policy-development and advocacy.

ABSTRACTS

Drawing on his direct experience as a drafter and signatory, the presenter will (i) discuss the history and development of the Yogyakarta Principles and impact at a national, regional and international level to date (ii) assess provisions in respect of the right to seek asylum in the context of contemporary challenges and (iii) assess

key advocacy opportunities including in such fora as the United Nations, including Universal Periodic Review (UPR), forthcoming UNHCR consultations on LGBTI refugees, and, the Equal Rights Coalition (ERC) including 2020 International LGBT Conference.

Colonial Impositions: Ideal, Deserving and Vulnerable Subjects

Thursday 12:00-1:30 | PARALLEL SESSION 2 | Conference Room (1.02)

We Name Ourselves: Beyond Dispossession, Displacement and Erasure

Associate Professor Samia Goudie, University of Canberra

First Peoples of Australia's have walked these lands for over 120,000 years and are recognised as the longest continuous culture on the planet.

Since the invasion and dispossession of first people's lives, resistance has been a constant voice that continues to challenge the genocidal actions and removals of our connections to country and culture.

Queer' first peoples of these lands now called 'Australia', have suffered a continuous 'Terra Nullius' of our identities, that has sought to erase our existence, our lives and stories. These wounds are written in our bodies and the narrative of the invader continues to place our lives within a deficit discourse.

Despite this, Queer first peoples are actively repositioning our stories as a powerful act of self-determination. It is clear that for our survival we must express ourselves through our own cultural lens and disrupt the tools of oppression that continue to make us invisible through dismantling political, social and cultural structural violence? What are our stories? where are they? and how do we navigate within a country that seeks to continue the myth of 'a fair go'.

This presentation seeks to make visible the invisible by exploring how we can dismantle the tools used by oppressors and upturn narratives that exclude First people's Queer lives' as the 'other.' This challenge shares commonalities with dispossessed and displaced people's around the globe as we find ways to thrive and not just survive.

Not queer enough? The imposition of a 'Western' Cultural Understanding of 'Queer Identity' on the Credibility of Asylum Seekers in the Netherlands

Lotte Wolff, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Asylum seekers persecuted for their sexual orientation are expected to use only their asylum narrative to prove persecution faced and their legitimate LGBTQ status. After a comprehensive review of the literature on factors affecting LGBTQ asylum credibility, this research looked specifically at the situation in the Netherlands. Synthesizing queer literature on the cultural understanding of 'queer identity' in the 'western' context, this paper has identified the logic used by the 'Immigratie en Naturalisatie Dienst' [IND] to decide which narratives are legitimate, to see how the cultural understanding of sexuality plays out in asylum decisions and the appeals court.

Through analysis of three court cases, it was concluded that the expected narrative by the IND is of a struggle with same-sex attraction, self-realisation proceduralised through moment(s) of realisation and a coming out that leads into a stable, self-actualized identity, able to be discussed in affective rather than sexual terms. This relates to queer scholars' writings on queer identity formation and the dominant discourse in the Netherlands that presents sexual identity as fixed, self-actualized and publicly demonstrated. This paper attempts to undermine the assumption that all legitimate LGBTQ asylum seekers are able to present this specific understanding of queer identity in their asylum narrative.

ABSTRACTS

“Had I Raised the ISIS Flag, I Wouldn’t Be Facing Half of What I Am Facing Now.” The Homosexual Homo Sacer as the Ideal Subject of Orientalist Asylum Regimes: The Mashrou’ Leila Affair in Egypt

Julie Youssef, University of Melbourne

The Mashrou’ Leila affair in Egypt in 2017 encapsulated the reconciliation of the legal precarity of sexuality in the MENA region and the competing hypervisibility of queerness outside of this context as a driving force for forced migration. The emergence of a new class of queer refugees in turn subjects receiving countries to a new politics of reception. For the first time in recorded Egyptian history at a Mashrou’ Leila concert, several concertgoers overtly raised a pride flag prompting the largest crackdown on LGBTQI+ Egyptians since 2001 and resulting in dozens of arrests. Among them, gay man Ahmed Alaa, 22, and lesbian woman Sarah Hegazi, 28, who were imprisoned on charges of ‘debauchery’ and ‘joining an outlawed group’ and facing fifteen years prison. Their flight to Canada as asylum seekers shortly after their release on bail saw their narrative projected across a world stage and the spectacle of their reception was instrumentalised to reinforce the Canadian national cultural narrative as a liberal and welcoming democracy in the wake of its quiet increased use of immigration detention. Alaa and Hegazi’s migration served to reconstruct ideal refugee victimhood through the optic of their suffering of torture unique to their queer experience, such as forced anal exams, and therefore reposition the queer refugee as the ideal subject of refugee reception. This emerging class of desirable refugee subjects in the extreme minority serves to benefit the interests of Western receiving states who are able to at once, exploit the spectacle of their reception and circumvent their obligation to accept a greater number of undesirable refugee subjects.

Saving’ Gays in the Former Metropole: Tracing the Pattern of Queer Persecution in Formerly Colonised Nations

Lotte Wolff, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

This paper attempts to contextualise queer asylum seekers today and the causes of their displacement. It takes a historical approach to see how the current persecution of queer people in the Global South is rooted in colonial domination, using the category of the Global South to trace patterns of colonial domination whilst remembering that the Global South is not a monolithic geographical

location but rather shares histories and practices of colonialism that have shaped power relations with the North. This paper points out the impact of homophobic colonial legacies on the Global South in terms of post-colonial persecution of queer individuals and their subsequent migrations, concluding that queer refugee movements today cannot be separated from issues of race and colonialism. Legacies of colonialism have meant that queer people are persecuted and migrate today, whilst the Global North can maintain moral high-ground by ‘saving’ them from their ‘homophobic countries’. This entails the same logic of hierarchy and racialized narratives as colonialism: dictating who is allowed to be mobile and who can be granted asylum.

Unsettling LGBT Resettlement: Queer Vulnerability and the Politics of ‘Deservingness’ in Lebanon and Turkey

Aydan Greatrick, University College London

Resettlement aims to protect the ‘most vulnerable’ refugees by transporting successful applicants to a ‘safe’ donor country (Fisher 2019). In recent years, this pathway to protection has been available to the ‘most vulnerable’ LGBT refugees (Kivilcim 2017), whose situation means they are unable to secure rights and dignity in their country of asylum. However, the ways in which the resettlement apparatus understands and therefore constructs queer vulnerability raises questions about the effectiveness of the system. In this context, ‘vulnerability’ takes on both material and performative dimensions, drawing in particular on Northern-centric tropes to determine categories of ‘idealness’ and ‘deservingness’ in queer resettlement cases. Queer refugees thus become embroiled in the refugee ‘politics of survival’ (Fiddian-Qasmiyeh 2014), whereby the strategic articulation of credible forms of vulnerability often determines their ability to actually access formal humanitarian support.

In this context, this paper explores how queer vulnerability has been represented and articulated by diverse humanitarian and state-level actors during the Syrian ‘refugee crisis’. The implications of such representations on LGBT resettlement will then be discussed, focusing in particular on the roles played by queer-led refugee support groups in Lebanon and Turkey who help applicants navigate the complex series of interviews that make up the process. In light of this research, conducted since 2016, this paper will ultimately call for a conceptualisation of queer refugee vulnerability that moves beyond hierarchies of ‘deservingness’, and toward a recogni-

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tion of 'precarity' linked both to homophobia and transphobia, but also queer refugee encounters with humanitarian infrastructures otherwise designed to 'protect' them.

Thursday 12:00-1:00 | INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP | Seminar Room 1 (3.02)

Moving Forward in Cultivating an Inclusive Organisation

Justine Harris, Susan Cameron-Jung, Christin Winata, Settlement Services International

At SSI we stand for human rights for all and our vision is to celebrate the diversity of our communities. However, often LGBTIQ+ clients are invisible in the settlement sector and settlement clients are invisible in the LGBTIQ+ sector. This is despite gender and sexual diversity (GSD) often being cited as a reason for forced migration or within an asylum claim. Individuals may be fearful of identifying as LGBTIQ+, and those who do, get lost between sectors.

An internal, employee-led GSD Working Group formed two years ago to improve visibility and promote an inclusive environment for our clients, staff and communities. Initially focusing on our people internally to ensure our workplace is a safe environment, we have incorporated GSD within our Diversity and Inclusion workforce strategy, run staff events to increase GSD awareness, revised policies, established a GSD champions program and created training on GSD foundations and inclusive practice. We are now moving to a client focus, and exploring ideas such as client safety and how to establish appropriate referral pathways. While we have clients who do identify, we want to create a more responsive, coordinated and evidence-informed approach.

This interactive workshop would share our experience above and build on ideas and discuss challenges. Questions for a discussion include:

- How do we create safe spaces from a client service perspective, without putting clients at risk within their own community?
- How do we connect with communities, build safe spaces and respect cultural practices and protocols?

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Documenting Experiences: Art, History & Ethics of Storytelling

Thursday 2.30-4.00pm | PARALLEL SESSION 3 | Theatrette (2.02)

A Digital Archive of LGBTIQ Oral Histories about Forced Migration

Renee Dixon, Australian National University

In this presentation, I will talk about a process of creating a digital archive that will be populated with oral histories of LGBTIQ migrants and refugees. The phenomenon of LGBTIQ migration and/or forced displacement has not been sufficiently documented. By applying the oral history method, I will create a unique collection that it will foreground the lived experiences that traditionally were made invisible from the formal historical records. This research by creative work aims to embrace the potential of information technology and queer theory in the contexts of digital archives to diversify and challenge normative archival practices.

Beyond the 'Liberation' Narrative: the Ethics and Politics of Representing LGBTIQ+ Migration within and from the African Continent

John Marnell, African Centre for Migration and Society, University of the Witwatersrand

Mainstream depictions of LGBTIQ+ migration – particularly those emanating from the Global North – tend to reproduce a singular narrative of desperation. This is particularly visible in narratives featuring LGBTIQ+ people who move within and from the African continent. Their lives, journeys and identities are often framed in ways that reaffirm the moral superiority of the West and the supposed savagery of the African continent.

This practice is replicated within international migration regimes that require LGBTIQ+ asylum seekers to perform their experiences in ways that align with narrow state expectations. Drawing on various arts-based research projects conducted in South Africa, this paper calls on migration scholars to rethink how and why we talk about LGBTIQ+ people on the move. While in no way diminishing the very real trauma and violence experienced by LGBTIQ+ migrants, the paper highlights the need for more nuanced depictions of these individuals' lives. In particular, it recognises the value of letting people curate and analyse their own self-representations. More broadly, it investigates the ethical and methodological tensions associated with arts-based research and reflects on the benefits of co-creating knowledge with stigmatised populations.

Homosexuality and Australian Borders: Refugees in the Margins of Gay Community Immigration Activism, 1980s Onwards

Annalise Humphris, Macquarie University

The Gay and Lesbian Immigration Task Force (GLITF) launched in 1984 attempting to secure equality in immigration law for homosexual Australians and their non-citizen partners. The group lobbied politicians and bureaucrats throughout the 1980s and 90s, gradually reforming immigration policy so that it was possible for Australian citizens in same sex relationships with non-citizens to live together in Australia. In a community funded Archive and History Project published in 2002, GLITF portrayed its political success as representative of Australia's propensity for tolerance, something which trumped Australia's inherent 'fear of difference'. As such, GLITF projects a triumphal narrative of a discriminatory past giving way to an inclusive present through gradual reform.

However, the question of refugees, and what GLITF could and should do for people persecuted on the basis of their sexuality flitters in and out of their archive, revealing some important historical insights into the dynamics of GLITF, and the limits of triumphal narratives. GLITF was a diverse organisation comprised of members from different political persuasions, ethnicities and classes. This paper examines the moments in which the refugee, particularly the homosexual male refugee, surfaces in the margins of GLITF's archive and history, often as a point of tension. Using these moments, this paper sketches a cultural history of the classed and racialized dynamics of GLITF and in doing so sheds light on the history of the queer refugee from the 1980s.

The Costs of Trauma Storytelling: Reflections of a Queer Refugee through Creative Practice

Kavita Gonsalves, Queensland University of Technology, Rasel Ahmed, Columbia University

This paper documents the creation of an audiovisual project which is a provocation on the ethics of trauma storytelling based on the exodus of the queer community within and outside of Bangladesh. The 2016 murders of queer activists Xulhaz Mannan, the publisher of Bangladesh's first printed queer magazine Roopbaan, and Mahbub Tonoy triggered this migration and was experienced first-hand by the first author of this paper who is currently seeking political asylum in the United States of America (USA).

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As part of the ongoing collective storytelling initiative started 5 years ago to document the Bangladeshi queer movement, the first author continued to work with his Bangladeshi queer. The storytelling initiative's focus had now shifted to the shared experience of seeking refuge in the global West post the murders. However, few collaborators stepped back as the exclusivity, value and agency of their trauma was realised through the creation of their own individual projects within the settings of institutions and a ready global audience. To document and reflect on this loss of communal storytelling, the

authors engage in the process of autoethnography and creative practice: a video anthology created out of the edited footage from the stalled work and new material featuring the first author. This paper and the video artefact serve as commentary on the nuances of refugee identity politics, displacement, ethics of storytelling, the creation of individual agency and how the generation of individual 'trauma capital', i.e. the value associated with trauma storytelling, displaces communal voice.

Queer Forced Displacement and the Law

Thursday 2.30-4.00pm | PARALLEL SESSION 4 | Seminar Room 1 (3.02)

Protection Visas and LGBTIQ+ Claims

Sophie de Rohan, Refugee Legal

I will give a legal perspective on the migration options for LGBTIQ+ people who seek to engage Australia's protection. I will discuss Australia's legislative framework in relation Protection visas (permanent and temporary; the process of applying for Protection in Australia; how do LGBTIQ+ claims fit within the legislative criteria of Gay/Lesbian claims, Transgender claims and other types of claims; how to argue LGBTIQ+ claims for applicants; limitations of the process, including issues of procedural fairness; challenges faced by LGBTIQ+ visa applicants; and our experiences/approaches in assisting LGBTIQ+ individuals who are seeking Australia's protection.

Denied Dignity: Assessing Protection Claims Based on Sexual and Gender Identity

Hannah Gray, Refugee Advice and Casework Service

The assessment of protection claims for people seeking asylum who identify as LGBTIQ+ continues to be an extremely subjective, invasive and unnecessarily traumatizing process. Applicants raising claims that are based on their sexual or gender identity are required to provide very extensive personal information to delegates of the Department of Home Affairs as well as an overwhelming amount of evidence (which is often extremely difficult or impossible to obtain) to prove they identify as LGBTIQ+. This presentation seeks to outline the various ways in which current departmental processes fall short of their own policies on assessing LGBTIQ+ claims, and facilitate discussion as to the ways in which these processes can be improved in order to allow those who identify as LGBTIQ+ to

substantiate their claims for protection in a less invasive and more dignified way.

Intake and Inclusion: Asking the Right Questions and Listening to Queer Refugees

Niamh Joyce, HIV/AIDS Legal Centre

It's a common experience for a migration lawyer to, half-way through assisting a client, at the courtroom door, or in even during the protection visa, find out a crucial piece of information about them. For example, they are transgender, or have HIV or are queer or have some other significant part of their life that would form the basis for a protection visa claim. 'Asylum seeker workers' can be surprised, or frustrated that their client did not disclose this earlier. The key to understanding this is asking the right questions, making it clear that such information is relevant, to listen, and to understand why someone might not tell a lawyer - a complete stranger - straight away that they are trans, or queer or have HIV or are a sex worker or all four. clients

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all four.

This presentation seeks to address why this occurs, and methods to assist both migration lawyers and their clients talk more openly about queer identities and other experiences that are statistically more likely to impact queer people, to strengthen protection visa applications.

This presentation will draw on personal and professional experience and past mistakes as examples to provide

participants with a practical understanding in how and why to foster trust in a migration lawyer/ asylum seeker relationship; looking beyond (male) homosexuality as a ground for seeking asylum; the impact of stigma and trauma on protection visa application processes; methods for intake and listening in queer migration and refugee matters; and how to ask the right questions and why.

Spotlight on Climate Change

Thursday 2.30-4.00pm | PARALLEL SESSION 5 | Conference Room (1.02)

PANEL: SOGIE Pacific Perspectives on Climate Displacement, Climate Migration and Current Refugee Law and Climate Change Policies

Ken Moala, Pacific Sexual & Gender Diversity Network, ILGA Oceania in conversation with Joseph Zane Sikulu, Pacific Climate Change Warrior, Pacific Project Coordinator, 350.org

Spoken Word Performance: Amoa Leota Lu, Samoan-Australian Fa'afafine Performer, Director, Gender Equality and Culture, Planet Ally

In 2015, The Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Land and Development (APWLD) released a Statement from LGBTI and indigenous women affected by climate change that stated: "LGBTI people experience various forms of discrimination and risks when climate change crises happen."

Gay Tongan Pacific climate change warrior, Joseph Zane Sikulu affirms that for many communities in the Pacific, climate change is a lived reality. "Our island ecosystems are suffering the most extreme impacts of climate change, with our homelands, cultures and traditional livelihoods being threatened by erosion, increased severity of natural disasters, sea levels rise, flooding, landslides, coral bleaching and ocean acidification."

Compared to those displaced by persecution, climate displacement and migration pose a number of unprecedented challenges for international policymakers. The 1951 Refugee Convention's definition of "refugee" doesn't include people fleeing environmental stress, hence a protection gap exists under international refugee law.

When we examine these issues through the intersectional lens of Pacific Islanders with diverse SOGIE, we know several Pacific nations have laws that still criminalise, which further exacerbates discrimination and protection as they fall through the cracks of common refugee or migration policies and pathways.

This all queer pacific panel session will be comprised of climate change warriors who are fighting for rights, inclusion and recognition. The panellists will speak about the current legal frameworks and share stories that speak to the resilience of the SOGIE communities who are at the forefront of building capacity locally and advocating regionally and globally on climate migration, displacement and moving with dignity.

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Thursday 4.05-5.15pm | PLENARY SESSION | Conference Room (1.02)

Trying to Walk On and Walk Strong: Reflections from Our LGBTIQ Peer Support Group for Asylum Seekers

LGBTIQ peer-run group for asylum seekers, Sydney

We are a group of asylum seekers with different gender identities, sexual orientations and stories, who share an experience of continuing to walk on and walk strong in the face of adversity. We hope to share stories from our lives in Australia and explain how we are shaped by our everyday experiences. This includes, but is not limited to, experiences of isolation, exclusion, loneliness, poverty, exhaustion, dis-empowerment, homesickness and the effects that stigma, discrimination and stereotypes have on us. Additionally, we will also reflect on how we try to find the courage to be ourselves in the face of these challenges. In sharing our experiences, we will highlight the necessity for accessible, inclusive and culturally-competent services. Furthermore, we will discuss the need for services where there are people like us, to ensure that we feel welcome and comfortable to be who we are.

NOTE: strictly no photography, recording or using presenters' names on social media during this session.

Friday 10.20-11.30am | PLENARY SESSION | Conference Room (1.02)

LGBTIQA+ / Refugee Community Dialogue Session

Community Dialogue Session is designed to give space for LGBTIQA+ people seeking asylum and people from refugee backgrounds to discuss challenges, issues, successes, solutions and everything in between that arise from their intersectional experiences in Australia.

It is, unfortunately, not uncommon for activist and service providers to drive the work with LGBTIQA+ people seeking asylum and people from refugee backgrounds without their meaningful participation. This session will allow to hear the first-hand account of what changes are necessary to ensure justice and support for all LGBTIQA+ people from refugee backgrounds.

The session will consist of two blocks. First, LGBTIQA+ refugee delegates will hold a space and share their reflections. Then, we will open to the audience to reflect on how they can be a part of the solutions, how they can coordinate and work ethically with affected communities and what is their role in supporting LGBTIQA+ forcibly displaced people.

NOTE: strictly no photography, recording or using presenters' names on social media during this session.

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Policy, Advocacy and Activism

Friday 12.00-1.30pm | PARALLEL SESSION 6 | Conference Room (1.02)

'These Walls Must Fall': LGBTI+ Lives in Immigration Detention

Paul Dillane, London School of Economics and Political Science

In many regions, countries have adopted increasingly restrictive and punitive measures focusing on reducing migration flows, including the use of immigration detention, often with devastating consequences including discrimination, violence and even death.

Immigration detention is particularly harmful to individuals who are already at a heightened risk of abuse, including LGBTI persons who face heightened levels of harassment, psychological abuse, physical and sexual violence by detention staff as well as other detainees. Other measures such as accelerated or 'fast-track' procedures, 'safe country' designations and solitary confinement have a profoundly negative affect on LGBTI persons.

In the context of widespread populism, nationalism and xenophobia, challenging such punitive measures is increasingly complex but necessary and growing number of groups and organisations are providing direct support to LGBTI persons in detention, documenting violations and campaigning for reform.

This presentation will (i) assess the experiences of LGBTI persons in immigration detention from multiple jurisdictions based on direct testimony and available research (ii) explore examples of successful interventions which had resulted in reforms to policy and practice including the use of alternatives to detention and cooperation with the broader anti-detention movement (ATD) and (iii) identify key resources to support litigation, policy-development and advocacy.

Hanged, Drawn and Quartered: Patriotism, Integration and Activism - Three Visits from the Ghost of Exile Past

Ariadna Hider

Current government rhetoric centres on statements that Australian patriotism is conditional on unequivocal integration into the Australian community and denouncement of any values or connections deemed even superficially to be 'unAustralian'. Discussions about stripping of Australian citizenship on the basis a person can be shown to have a possible claim to citizenship in another country, and a failed attempt

to have private citizens register as a 'foreign agent' if they maintain ties with family and friends overseas, serve to emphasise this 'either with us or against us' attitude to being an Australian citizen. Is this 'with us or against us' position really true? Is the sense of loss and pain associated with seeing the countries of our forbears persecute LGBTI minorities, and sorrow knowing we would be unwelcome there were we to visit, somehow representative of a lack of total commitment to being Australian? Is being interested and invested in the treatment of LGBTI minorities in the countries of our ancestors, attempting to take an active role in highlighting their plight and improving human rights for them, somehow demonstrating a failure of Australian patriotism?

Ghosts of exile past will seek to examine these questions through the eyes of a second generation Byelorussian-Anglo Australian who spent over three decades serving Australian interests domestically and internationally.

Plane Truths: Queer Protest Movements Pushing Back Against Involuntary Deportations

Bess Hepworth, Planet Ally

Air travel shrinks the world. It brings cultures, nationalities and religions together. But for LGBTIQ+ people, air travel isn't always a moment of joy and excitement. Transgender, intersex and gender diverse people face particular scrutiny, then when considering the situation for LGBTIQ+ asylum seekers and refugees, travel is a harsh, cold necessity as they flee often in fear for their lives from unspeakable violence, terror and discrimination, added to that is the very real fear that their claim could be rejected and they may be subjected to involuntary and often imminent risk of deportation.

As deportations are on the rise, so too are anti-deportation protest movements, we have seen live streamed passenger protests going viral and also a trend of Pilots who have repeatedly refused to fly asylum seekers to countries where they may face danger. In the queer movement we have seen some very disruptive protests and movement building and hashtags such as #NoPride Deportations have become synonymous with solidarity protests and campaigns.

Airlines are being accused of pink washing and in some countries the use of "terrorism" rules to prosecute activists is heavily condemned. More and more airlines

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are under intense pressure from activist groups, shareholders and the media over the forced deportations and being urged to review policies, processes and for some government contracts.

This presentation will share numerous protest case studies, examine the evolution and effectiveness of anti-deportation protest movements and highlight some of airlines that are pushing back against violating internal human rights law.

The Role of Philanthropy in Supporting LGBTIQ Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Honorary Associate Professor Ruth McNair AM, Dr Liz Rickman, Sarina Jackson, Pride Foundation

There are several issues affecting LGBTIQ+ ('queer') refugees and asylum seekers that can be supported through the work of philanthropy. These issues include a lack of funding and resourcing commensurate to the high level of need. There is a lack of attention in the LGBTIQ community regarding queer refugees and asylum seekers. Policy silence is a huge issue at all levels, from the UNHCR blindness to queer asylum

seekers as a particularly vulnerable subgroup, to federal and regional policy gaps. In addition, the refugee services sector in Australia has little or no specific knowledge about queer refugees. This is partly driven by a failure to recognise this subgroup as clients due to an understandable reluctance to disclose queer status to service providers, and partly by the lack of available training. Finally, there is little national coordination of people and organisations working for queer refugees and asylum seekers, and subsequent isolation.

Pride Foundation Australia has established a national advisory group on queer refugees and asylum seeker issues to help address some of these issues. It includes people with lived experience of being refugees, as well as lawyers, community service providers and philanthropists. It is creating an opportunity to communicate with each other nationwide, share ideas and resources, and prioritise areas for funding. Such an initiative can help to raise awareness in both LGBTIQ and mainstream about queer refugees and asylum seekers, and to fundraise within both communities. We will present some of the focus areas of this work including training and advocacy.

Intersectional Identities and Experiences

Friday 12.00-1.30pm | PARALLEL SESSION 7 | Seminar Room 1 (3.02)

Intersectional Inclusivity: Navigating the Social Justice Space as People with Lived Experience Holding Multiple Identities

Azlan AP, Democracy in Color

This presentation will address the lived experiences of refugees and asylum seekers who hold multiple identities – such as race, religion, culture, class, ability, gender and sexuality – and how these overlapping and intersecting oppression and privilege impact their daily lives and their work in organising and advocating for queer refugees and asylum seekers in the social justice space in Australia.

Countering Islamic Conservatism on Transsexuality: An Auto-ethnography of Reclaiming my Trans-identity Through my Faith

Aisya Aymanee M. Zaharin, University of Queensland

This article reflects upon my personal lived experiences of undertaking auto-ethnography on victimisation through my trans-identity. It is focused on the linking epistemological (progressive Muslim standpoint) and

methodological (auto-ethnography) background; while the analysis 'tells' the auto-ethnographic 'transgender identity' of myself, a university researcher with a progressive Muslim positionality. As an ethnic Muslim transgender and a social justice researcher from Malaysia, exploring my transgender identity in a conservative society connects me within a long history of oppression and injustices with marginalised and vulnerable Male to Female (MTF) transgender group at large. Islam has always taken side with the oppressed since the day of its establishment rather than taking side with the oppressor, and this include taking a stand against transphobia, xenophobia and misogyny. This article offers an in-depth counter-narrative of Islamic conservatism and exploration of transgenderism issue from epistemological progressive Muslim standpoint. It challenges the conservative arguments based on the verse in the Qur'an (4: 119) that 'God has created everything as it is', and 'changes in one's body are only allowed under medical circumstances'. These arguments are highly ambiguous and the verse has long been taken out of its original context by the conservative view. Not only these arguments is contradictory with their principle that 'God does not make mistakes' but

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also irrelevant as far as modern medical science is concerned because transgenderism has been vigorously discussed in a number of science discourse in the last century under medical, psychological, and socio-cultural phenomenon. It then explores Tantawi (Sunni) and Khomeini (Shia) fatwas that allow Muslim transgender to receive treatment and/or sex-reassignment surgery and, therefore, shows how the fatwas, ultimately, expanded the scope of Islamic tolerance. The bottom-up perspective aims is to give voice and the empowerment of the transgender community, as well as empowering myself.

Survival Migration: a Study of Central American Trans Women's Decision to Flee

Cristina de Nicolás Izquierdo, University of London

Systematic research on transgender migration is limited and mostly focused on the 'during' and 'post' stages of displacement. Little attention has been paid to the decision and pre- migration phase.

In Central America, trans women face severe discrimination, marginalization, and abuses based on their gender identity, and are exposed to constant physical and sexual violence. Despite a lack of precise data, reports show that they are part of the new wave of international displacement affecting the region. Analysing why they flee and the factors contributing to their decision is essential to understand the multiple facets of displacement and this often invisible phenomenon.

This study uses life-stories to deepen the knowledge of trans women's decision-making to flee across borders, often following multiple life experiences of internal displacement. It uses the concept of 'survival migration' to describe movements that save their lives, situations of flight that result from the deprivation of basic rights and persecution, exploring how the broad range of factors affecting the decision interrelate.

The findings suggest that although seeking a safe place in which it would be possible to build a better life is the priority, their life experiences and the decisions they make are complicated. For them, migration is not necessarily a synonym of freedom but a limited strategy to survive. The changing circumstances in which their reactive or preventive movements are located will determine the nature of their decision to flee across a border.

The objective of this study is not to make generalizations about trans women's decision to flee, but rather to give a new insight into this complex topic and hope to contribute to the understanding about this community,

their reality and their needs before displacement.

Disability, Sexuality and Refugee Status

Margherita Coppolino, Dominic Golding, National Ethnic Disability Alliance

In this presentation Margherita will discuss about the barriers faced by people with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, people from refugee backgrounds and LGBTIQ people. We will discuss the overlaps of issues within the intersecting communities.

Dominic will be presenting on some cases of the LGBTI refugee angle through Dominic's work with RISE (Refugees, Survivors and Ex-detainees). He will outline some of the issues raised by RISE members on how persecution and gender discrimination flows from country of origin to Australia; share about the International AIDS Conference held in Melbourne and those who sought asylum and how support was divided along with race and class.

Discussing different cases, they will highlight the various ways seeking asylum is never as straight forward as when one reads the UNHCR description of claiming refugee status. It is complex and multilayered through racism and ideas of queerness in both the mainstream and diaspora cultural landscape.

Health, Sexuality and Forced Displacement

Friday 12.00-1.30pm | PARALLEL SESSION 8 | Theatrette (2.02)

Sanctuary in Substance Abuse

Nic Robinson-Griffith, Thorne Harbour Health

How a trauma-informed lens can be used to eliminate stigma, and shape best-practice for alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment amongst forced migrants who identify as being queer.

There is an understanding that individual rates of problematic substance use are higher amongst forced migrants, and people who identify as being queer. Stigma, shame and trauma, as specifically linked to displacement, structural oppression (including minority-stress) and internalised queerphobia can be drivers of problematic substance use. In addition to this, a reluctance to discuss problematic substance use caused by fear of legal consequence or negative societal perception can lead to a hesitation of disclosure, service exclusion, and poorer health outcomes.

Thorough factoring in these negative determinants, faced in conjunction with possible community exclusion (based on sexuality) and the xenophobic nature of some LGBTIQ+ specific sub-groups. One can see how strong the desire to seek sanctuary in substance use might be, specifically in responding to feelings of isolation/exclusion.

However, there is a lack of research and understanding of the impact that cumulative trauma has on people who have experienced forced migration, isolation or stigma because of their sexuality, and the role substance use has in providing social interaction and feelings of acceptance.

Relevant for practitioners and community members, the crux of this discussion will

focus on the necessity to apply a trauma-informed lens to dismantle stigma-based oppression related to AOD use, and strategies that can be applied to enhance social connectedness as a method of AOD treatment.

Documenting the Social Consequences of Discrimination and Exclusion amongst LGBT Refugees in Kenya

Emanuel Munyarukumbuzi, James Maingi Gathatwa, Associate Professor Margaret Jjuuko, University of Rwanda

The lives of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender

(LGBT) communities in East Africa, are often surrounded with controversies, that even exist in national constitutions and various legislations. This has forced many LGBT youths into exile. As refugees, they have to deal with trauma associated with discrimination, refugee status, persecution in refugee camps, and dehumanizing and humiliating screening processes, usually carried out by authorities in charge of their welfare – including healthcare professionals, camp administrators, and, at times, the UNHCR.

When people are discriminated against they often seek for safe and comforting spaces, such as night clubs, where they inevitably fall into prostitution and substance use and abuse to cope psychologically and financially. STIs and HIV may ensue, which, in addition to their refugee status and sexual orientations, put them in a situation of multiple disenfranchisement.

This study departs from perspectives of human rights and social justice paradigms, to document the narratives of LGBT youth refugees in Nairobi-Kenya, in terms of the hurdles they face as they seek LGBT-appropriate mental health services and sexual health information and services. Methodological perspectives include a review of relevant documents, in-depth interviews with experts and key informants on LGBT, and focused group discussions (FGDs) with the LGBT youth refugees in Nairobi, Kenya. The 'psychology of disenfranchisement' theory will provide a framework to elucidate the implications of victimization, alienation and cynicism of these minority groups. We seek to argue that disenfranchisement among LGBT refugees, might translate into worthless sentiments that might lead to grave consequences.

Migrants' Experience with HIV: A Support Service Perspective

Greg McGuirk, AIDS Action Council

A growing cohort of clients presenting to the AIDS Action Council are experiencing difficulties with migration because of their HIV status and experience barriers to accessing health care due to their visa status. Many regions of the world where forced migration originates are areas of high prevalence of HIV, as well as Hepatitis B & C, and typically health care availability is scarce. Too often HIV is diagnosed first during refugee assessment or other visa application in Australia.

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The diagnosis of HIV for a gay man or a transgender woman at any point during their experience of dislocation creates multiple layers of stigma within their communities of origin, as well as in Australia. HIV diagnosis for heterosexual refugees and migrants creates a different dilemma in that many of the HIV support services in Australia are housed within LGBT health services which may act as a barrier to their engagement.

These people find themselves in a medical and legal limbo. Australian Immigration deems the lifetime cost of medical care as a burden to the taxpayer and therefore a reason to refuse permanent resident status. Medicare ineligibility excludes them from receiving medical treatment, including lifesaving antiretroviral drug therapy, except through charitable mechanisms. The option to return to their community of origin is complicated by the stigma associated with HIV, where they now have additional reason to fear exclusion, discrimination or violence, to say nothing of the lack of available health supports.

Resources and Referrals: Improving Health and Wellbeing Outcomes for LGBTIQ+ People from Refugee Background

Gianna Parma, True Relationships and Reproductive Health, Misha Emingerova, Diverse Identities Gather

True's Culturally Responsive Health (CRH) project delivers migrant and refugee reproductive and sexual

health training to clinicians, community workers, and interpreters in Queensland. A core component is LGBTIQ+ cultural safety.

This presentation will provide insight into cultural safety resources and training developed for clinicians, interpreters, and community workers. CRH focuses on connecting services and groups for effective collaboration to support LGBTIQ+ asylum seekers and people from refugee background. The presentation will emphasise the importance of social wellbeing referral pathways, and how referring beyond formal health and community pathways to also refer to peer-run groups such as Diverse Identities Gather (DIG) offers an opportunity for connection and wellbeing.

DIG is a collective of Queer folk coming from diverse backgrounds and parts of the world working together to create a safe social space/platform for gender and sexuality diverse people seeking asylum, and those from refugee and migrant backgrounds in and from Meanjin (Brisbane).

The collective aims to work together to create public and private social events where people can make connections, share stories, exchange knowledge and explore and affirm their identities freely. We recognise that homophobia and transphobia are a result of the colonial project. DIG acknowledges that we live and gather on stolen land and sovereignty was never ceded.

Participants will be encouraged to strengthen relationships with relevant peer-based groups – or to start their own.

Inclusive Service Provision

Friday 2.30-4.00pm | PARALLEL SESSION 9 | Seminar Room 1 (3.02)

Rainbow to Refuge: Bonding, Bridging and Leveraging Resources to Empower Queer Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Internally Displaced People

Ian Seal, THREE for All Foundation

Rainbow to Refuge is an umbrella for a number of newly-established projects undertaken by the queer development agency Many Coloured Sky @ THREE for All Foundation that work with queer refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced people and a growing network of local, Australian and international organisations to build connections, address basic needs, advocate for change, build capacity and support grassroots initiatives. At its core, we build peer networks and provide social support and empowerment, alongside delivering training and capacity building, resource development and awareness raising and advocacy strategies. This

presentation will provide an overview of our Rainbow to Refuge programs in Melbourne and regional Victoria, our growing networks and our partnerships in East Africa and South East Asia, through which we aim to address the impact of state-actioned and state-sanctioned violence and discrimination against sexual and gender minorities.

As a small and volunteer-driven organisation we use development skills and practice to work, in partnership, towards grass-roots and sustainable change, and we leverage larger resources to the benefit of the communities in which we work. We partner with and empower the individuals, organisations and communities most affected by the issues on which we work, build bonding and bridging connections and work with a range of allies to build and focus resources towards queer asylum seekers, refugees and internally displaced people.

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Reflections on Queer, Peer-led Group Work in Precarious Contexts

Asylum Seekers Centre, Sydney

Since 2017 the Asylum Seekers Centre and the NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors (STARTTS) have co-facilitated a peer-led community support group for people seeking asylum and refugees with diverse genders and sexualities. After two years, and with the emergence of a partner group led by group members themselves, we would like to share our reflections with you. Two long-standing group members will join co-facilitators to offer multiple perspectives on our journey.

We will outline the unique challenges faced by both group members and co-facilitators when it comes to precariousness and resourcing. We will also explore the practical realities faced by group members in the process of seeking asylum in Australia – and how the group's model has evolved, and continually invites people in to hold and affirm a space of belonging in this context. We will share the practice principles that have emerged so far. In addition to sharing answers, we will look forward with you by posing questions and asking you to engage in how to ensure the future sustainability of these spaces and the ongoing support for group members as valid, and valuable, members of the Australian LGBTIQ+ community.

ACT in Kenya

Florence Wangari Maina, St Paul's University Kenya, Carolyn Minchin

ACT with Kindness is an approach based on Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (Hayes, Strosahl, Wilson 1999) developed by Florence Maina and Carolyn Minchin in collaboration, designed to give communities skills to handle the impact of hate speech and marginalization. Their work is supported by the Association for Contextual Behavioral Science, and is modelled on the work of Commit and Act in Sierra Leone, where Acceptance and Commitment Therapy and negotiation based on values has been used to address violence against women and risk of infection transmission during the Ebola crisis.

Florence Maina has identified colonization and religion as two powerful forces that impact on LGBTIQ communities in Kenya and surrounding countries, creating a crisis as refugees flee to Kenya to seek asylum in safer third countries, while LGBTIQ communities within Kenya are subject to marginalization and hate speech and violence, with significant numbers becoming internally displaced persons in Kenya.

Based on the behavioral science of Steven Hayes and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), with support from the international community, the Camaflo Café project seeks to empower local communities in Kenya to find a voice, find ways back to study, employment and social inclusion, and to challenge the narratives of hate speech through theology and science. This project is empowering communities in peer support and trauma recovery, so that communities that are currently being treated as criminal and marginalized are finding ways to walk together, share knowledge and build new futures. Sharing food, recovery skills and social connection is crucial first step to change.

Forced Displacement of Young Gender and Sexuality Diverse Folks: Social Support, Housing and Employment

Samia Sayed, Susan Farrar, Twenty10 inc GLCS NSW

In this presentation, Twenty10 inc GLCS NSW employees, Samia Sayed (Client Engagement officer-Group's and Projects) and Susan Farrar (Client Services Manager) will discuss the ongoing barriers LGBTQIA+ folks from displaced communities face in a social, employment and housing context and how Twenty10 has supported clients through the services they provide.

In the first part of the presentation Samia will discuss the ongoing issues that clients accessing Twenty10 face in a social context and how she has created a safe, fun and discreet space for folks who need to prioritise discretion.

Additionally, the presentation seeks to interrogate the barriers and bureaucracy clients face when applying for appropriate housing and the way this affects their employment, income and mental health.

It is hoped that this presentation can give insight into the services we provide and potentially connect with other great work folks in this sector do to support the mental health, employment and housing crisis that LGBTQIA+ folks from displaced communities face.

ABSTRACTS

Queer Forced Displacement and the Law

Friday 2.30-4.00pm | PARALLEL SESSION 10 | Conference Room (1.02)

From Lives of Fear to Lives of Freedom – Ten Years On: A Review of Australian Refugee Decisions on the Basis Of LGBTI Status

Ghassan Kassisieh, Equality Australia

In 2008, the NSW Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby, with the assistance of Gilbert + Tobin, published its report, *From Lives of Fear to Lives of Freedom*. The report analysed 133 refugee decisions on the basis of sexual orientation from 2001 to 2007. It identified issues in the decision-making process for gay and lesbian applicants, including stereotypical understandings of sexuality, insensitive questioning, inconsistent and uncritical use of independent country information, and problematic reasoning in decision-making on protection claims. Reviewing cases from 2007 to now, this paper discusses what has improved and what remains in issue since the 2008 report, including whether complementary protection has impacted on the decision-making process and how decision-makers have confronted claims on the basis of gender identity and sex diversity.

Condemned to Stereotypes: How the Australian Refugee Determination Process Discriminates Against People with Sexuality or Gender Identity Based Claims

Michaela Rhode, Asylum Seekers Resource Centre

It is an accepted principle of international law that refugee status is to be accorded to people who are at risk of persecution due to their sexual orientation and gender identity ('SOGI'). As a team of refugees lawyers working in the Human Rights Law Program at the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, the authors contend that the Refugee Determination Process ('RDP') in Australia does not conform with international best practice requirements for processing people who claim to be at risk of serious harm on account of their SOGI. Whilst a number of domestic guidelines and policies exist to assist decision makers at the Department of Home Affairs ('DHA'), the Immigration Assessment Authority ('IAA') and the Administrative Appeals Tribunal ('AAT'), they are either insufficient or are frequently not adhered to in practice. As a result, many people seeking asylum in Australia on the basis of their SOGI are refused protection on the basis of adverse credibility assessments, often based on stereotypical assumptions and unreasonable expectations regarding the level of evidence and proof required.

Historically the Australian courts have not provided effective legal remedies for SOGI claimants as their jurisdiction is limited to assessing whether an error of law, or jurisdictional error, was made. Errors in an adverse credibility finding do not easily fit into an arguable category of jurisdictional error. Through practice experience, research and case studies, the authors analyse how the Australian RDP diverges from international best practice and propose improvements and avenues to widen the scope of judicial remedy.

The Production of a Globalised Transnormativity in Australian Refugee Determinations

Professor Nan Seuffert, Legal Intersections Research Centre School of Law, University of Wollongong

Attention to transgender people, issues and research has blossomed in recent years, identified as a 'major preoccupation in western culture' in 2006 (Phillips), followed by US VP Joe Biden's statement in 2012 that "Transgender rights are the civil rights of our time", which was identified by TIME Magazine as the 'transgender tipping point' in 2014. The 'coming out' of Lt Col Cate McGregor in her 2012 book *An Indian Summer of Cricket*, followed by a 2014 Australia Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) 'Australian Story' show where she was introduced by the conservative then Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, as a friend of 30 years, and as "a person of strength, intellect, capacity and truly remarkable courage", might be identified as Australia's tipping point.

At the same time, Australia has engaged in appalling human rights abuses in relation to asylum seekers, which have been thoroughly critiqued by national and international human rights organisations, including the UN Committee on Torture, numerous NGOs, and many academics in law, society and culture. In this paper I consider the intersection of these two prominent socio-legal and geopolitical dynamics in determinations of transgender refugee applications between 2015 and 2018. I focus on the significant proportion of applications from Malaysia, and the 'remarkable' success rate of these applications. I argue that the decisions on these successful applications participate in the production of a properly recognisable transnormative (legal) subject fit for inclusion in the nation.

Queerness and Crimmigration: Cases of LGBTIQ+ Refugee Applications in the Australian Administrative Appeals Court

Dr Brandy Cochrane, Deakin University

Despite strong historical links between sexuality, immigration and control, the connections remain understudied in many disciplines, including criminology. Crimmigration (Stumpf, 2006) has become a common term in the last decade, used by criminological border scholars, to describe the link between states' increasing border control coupled with increasing use of criminal tactics in a previously administrative space against non-citizens. While attempting to curtail non-citizen movement from home countries, affluent nations are increasingly subjecting populations to imprisonment, detention and risky border crossings (Cochrane, 2018; Nevins 2003; Pickering & Cochrane 2012; Weber &

Pickering 2011).

Scholars have rarely applied the crimmigration framework to LGBTIQ+ non-citizen community, especially within the Australian context. Asylum seekers are one of the main targets of crimmigration tactics within Australia, which means the population of LGBTIQ+ asylum seekers needing re-settlement are the target of state control. In order to examine crimmigration tactics and this population, this paper examined 125 cases of LGBTIQ+ refugees that appeared before the Administrative Appeals Tribunal of Australia between July 2015 & February 2019. The paper will examine trends in decisions as whole (125) and then focus on one applicant type: trans refugees (7). Several important themes emerged from the cases around 1. Evidence 2. Applicants' stories and 3. Judgements. These themes are analysed in light of crimmigration and with a critical feminist lens.

CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

Aisya Aymanee M. Zaharin, University of Queensland

Aisya Aymanee M. Zaharin received bachelor's degree of Legal Studies and MSc.CC and is currently a final year PhD candidate at the University of Queensland, Australia. Aisya is a critical ethnography researcher, social justice activist and an inclusionary feminist. These positions were influenced by their active participation in various progressive democratic movements in Malaysia, including the Centre for Independent Journalism (CIJ), Sister in Islam, G25 and Islamic Renaissance Front. Their research interests lie in the area of political science and history, from Malaysian media and anthropology to de-westernization as meta-theory with a focus on improving social inequality, promoting cultural relativism and social responsibility concepts. On a social level, Aisya locates themselves as a Malay Muslim transwoman of colour who grew up in a middle-class family. They come to this work with the lived experience of being a progressive Muslim, in addition to having faced enduring oppression due to transphobia throughout their early transition in Malaysia. They recently just being granted their asylum status, a long three years mentally-challenged process but worthy.

Amao Leota Lu

Amao Leota Lu is a proud Samoan fa'afafine and trans woman of color.

She is an international speaker, performance artist, writer, activist and storyteller who infuses the woven tapestry of the intersectionality of gender, culture and life experiences in her performance works and talks.

She has had work shown at the United Nations, marched with her Pacific community at this year's Stonewall 50th Anniversary World Pride and has featured on various media publications as well as the acclaimed Forbes magazine.

Annalise Humphris, Macquarie University

Annalise is a PhD candidate in Modern History at Macquarie University. They are researching the cultural history of interactions between Australian borders and homosexuality from the 1980s onwards. They are focusing on three case studies that span the last 40 years: gay and lesbian relationships, HIV/AIDS and queer refugees. This work compliments their past research which includes an Honours thesis on the discourse of white multiculturalism and a Masters thesis on the topic of police relations with the gay community in Sydney, both of which focused on the 1980s. They are an executive member of the History in the Making

student journal.

Ariadna Hider

Ariadna Hider served in two Australian government organisations contributing to the protection of international rule of law, retiring from the second of those organisations at senior commissioned-officer level. Ariadna is co-published internationally on the subject of the rule of law and international human development, has published a book and other works about Eastern European women who fought in combat during the Second World War, for many years was president or vice president of the oldest intersex peer support group in the world, and is currently focused on LGBTI rights in Eastern Europe.

Asylum Seekers Centre, Sydney

<https://asylumseekerscentre.org.au>

Presenters, Alex Taylor, Heather Grace Jones, Jeremy Gustafsson and Kathryn Clark are co-facilitators of the LGBTIQ+ Community Support Group, a unique peer-led group for people seeking asylum in Sydney. Joining these co-facilitators will be two, long-standing group members - David and Francis, who have both shared their expert lived experience at conferences in Sydney and Brisbane, and deliver training and co-facilitate a partner group for LGBTIQ+ people with a refugee background in Western Sydney.

Asylum Seekers Resource Centre, Melbourne

<https://www.asrc.org.au>

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC) is both a place and a movement. We are an independent not for profit, whose programs support and empower people seeking asylum to maximise their own physical, mental and social wellbeing. The Human Rights Law Program (HRLP) is the ASRC's independent, not for profit Community Legal Centre. We provide free, expert legal advice and representation in relation to protection applications to asylum seekers who are at risk of persecution and human rights abuses in their home country.

Aydan Greatrick, University College London

Aydan Greatrick is a PhD candidate at University College London (UCL), and a Project Coordinator with the Migration Research Unit, UCL Department of Geography. Aydan's PhD research explores responses to queer refugees from Syria in Lebanon

CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

of the interdisciplinary Refuge in a Moving World research network and is a postgraduate fellow of the Royal Geographic Society and the British Society for Middle East Studies. Prior to his PhD, Aydan worked in international development. He holds a MSc in Global Migration from UCL, and a BA in History from the University of Cambridge.

Azlan AP, Democracy in Color

<https://democracyincolour.org>

Azlan is a recent playwright (Queer Asians Anonymous) and an organiser and campaigner with Democracy in Colour, the first racial and economic justice organisation led by People of Colour. His advocacy and activism includes supporting and raising the voices of queer people of colour, queer Muslims and queer refugees and people seeking asylum.

Bess Hepworth, Planet Ally

<https://www.planetally.org>

Bess Hepworth is the Founder and Executive Director of Planet Ally. She is an Australian born social media scientist, international speaker, curator, wife and Mother of 2 young boys. Bess has Board roles with the UNDP's Being LGBTI in Asia, Asia-Pacific Transgender Network, ILGA Oceania and International Family Equality Day.

Bess was a Co-founder and coach of Australia's first women's refugee football team, a guest women's football coach at the 2008 Homeless World Cup as well as FIFA media liaison at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. Most recently, prior to founding Planet Ally, Bess worked as APAC Partnerships and Community Manager for global LGBT business organisation Out Leadership. Prior to her 4-year role at Out Leadership, Bess ran a successful corporate team building company focused on creativity, productivity and performance. She has been named in the Top 10 people to follow on Twitter for Business and Inclusion, 2nd in the RAHM Global LGBTI Leadership Contest and regularly features in the top 400 in the Global LGBTI Power Twitter List.

Brandy Cochrane, Deakin University

Dr Brandy Cochrane is a lecturer and researcher in criminology at Deakin University. Current research focuses on border securitisation and the refugee and asylum-seeking community in Australia. Their research and teaching interests include gender, migration, security, methods, critical and queer studies. Brandy received a PhD from Monash University in 2017 and a MS from Portland State University in 2012.

Carolina Gottardo, Jesuit Refugee Service

Australia <https://www.jrs.org.au>

Carolina is a migrant lawyer and economist specialising on human rights issues for more than 20 years in different regions including Asia Pacific, Europe and Latin America. She specialises on gender, asylum and migration. Carolina is the Director of Jesuit Refugee Service, Australia. Previously she was the CEO of a migrant women's rights organisation in the UK. Carolina's expertise is in policy and advocacy and she has worked with the British Institute of Human Rights, Refugee Council of Australia and Womankind Worldwide amongst others. Carolina has served on boards in London, Bangkok, Brussels and Sydney. She is currently the co-chair of the End Child Detention Coalition Australia and the chair of the women, gender and diversity group and focal point on the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) at the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network. Carolina has ample experience of advocacy with the UN system and is a member of the UN Women's Global Expert Working Group to address the human rights of women in the GCM and a member of the board of the International Detention Coalition.

Carolyn Minchin

Carolyn Minchin is a social worker and teacher based in Canberra and develops pastoral care online through LGBTIQ Rainbow Faith communities and behavioral science, to fill the void created by the official church position on her community. She identifies as a bisexual non-binary woman.

Christin Winata, Settlement Services International

<https://www.ssi.org.au>

Christin Winata recently completed her Social Work degree with Western Sydney University. Her final student placement was at Settlement Services International (SSI), where she worked collaboratively across the organisation to support the work plan of their Gender and Sexual Diversity (GSD) Working Group. Combining her lived experience with a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) background and her social work skill-sets, she has the capacity to unpack some of the challenges of LGBTIQ+ people seeking asylum and refugees. Recently, Christin also featured as a panellist in an LGBTIQ+ Forum discussion of CALD communities, and she continues to volunteer with SSI.

CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

Cristina de Nicolás Izquierdo, University of London

Cristina de Nicolás Izquierdo is a political scientist, specialising in conflictology, humanitarian action, and forced migration, with 20 years working with international NGOs, UN agencies, academic institutions, government, donors, and civil society organizations in managerial positions, and as a consultant. Additionally, she is one the peer reviewers and translators of the All In Diary, a practical tool for humanitarian workers. More recently, she has combined international consultancies on health & governance, with research and studies on forced migration, mainly focused on displacement from the Northern Triangle of Central America, and the integration of young Syrian refugees in Turkey.

Dominic Golding, National Ethnic Disability Alliance

<http://www.neda.org.au>

Dominic Hong Duc Golding came in a box, 'Operation Babylift' one of some 300 plus children and babies evacuated from orphanages in South Vietnam. Dominic has a background in community arts to disability support worker. His projects have been with Australian Vietnamese Youth Media, in partnership with the Vietnamese Community in Australia (VIC chapter) directed Walking Without Feet (2004) an arts showcase by Vietnamese young adults with special needs. Dominic has returned to Vietnam three times, each time a new show was developed, Shrimp (2005, 2007) which won the Drama Victoria Award, Mr. Saigon, Ms. Hanoi (2007). He is a curator of two exhibitions; Unseen Habitation (2014) and Vessels to a Story (2016) for RISE, a drop in centre for refugees and asylum seekers in Melbourne. Dominic recently completed a University of Melbourne fellowship on refugees with disabilities. He is currently Policy and Projects Officer at NEDA, an NGO to supporting those from NESB with disabilities.

Emanuel Munyarukumbuzi, University of Rwanda

Emmanuel Muryarukumbuzi is Assistant Lecturer at the University of Rwanda, School of Journalism and Communication. He holds a Master of Communication (Bond University, Australia) and a Bachelor of Communication (National University of Rwanda, Rwanda). His research interests are in the areas of communication for development, sustainability, corporate social responsibility, and the deployment of ICTs in human communication and human rights and social justice.

Florence Wangari Maina, St Paul's University Kenya

Florence Wangari Maina is a theology student at St Paul's University in Kenya, a mother of two daughters, and identifies as a gender fluid lesbian womxn. She is a passionate and distinguished human rights activist and advocate for LGBTIQ rights. Florence is currently training in Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) to facilitate community empowerment and create local solutions and initiatives to address problems faced by LGBTIQ communities confronting hate speech and violence in every day life.

Ghassan Kassisieh, Equality Australia

<https://equalityaustralia.org.au>

Ghassan Kassisieh is the Legal Director at Equality Australia, a lawyer and the author of the From Lives of Fear to Lives of Freedom report, analysing Australian refugee decisions on the basis of sexual orientation. The report has been widely cited in academic literature and has helped contribute to UNHCR Guidelines on the processing of refugee claims on the basis of sexual orientation. Prior to his role at Equality Australia, Ghassan was a civil litigation lawyer at Gilbert + Tobin in Sydney and Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in London, and the Policy and Development Coordinator at the NSW Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby.

Gianna Parma, True Relationships and Reproductive Health

<https://www.true.org.au>

Gianna Parma is a facilitator who works on projects that centre migrant and refugee reproductive and sexual health. Gianna has worked as a teacher and in a range of education and coordination roles within not-for-profit organisations. From working in refugee settlement as well as LGBTIQ+ services, Gianna's interest is to create and strengthen understandings and connections between these two areas.

Greg McGuirk, AIDS Action Council, Canberra

<https://aidsaction.org.au>

Greg McGuirk is a Peer Navigator and Support Worker for HIV positive people at the AIDS Action Council of the ACT. His role for the past 3 years has involved supporting HIV positive people to access the health and social services they require as a result of the HIV status. His role also involves developing policies and education programs around STI and BBV prevention, LGBTIQ inclusion practices, and gay men's sexual health. Greg has a Graduate Diploma in Psychology, and Certificates in Sexology and Sex Education.

CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

Hannah Gray, Refugee Advice and Casework Service, Sydney

<https://www.racs.org.au>

Hannah Gary is a solicitor and migration agent working at the Refugee Advice and Casework Service (RACS). Hannah completed a Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Arts in Communication at UTS in 2014. Hannah began working at RACS in 2016 as the coordinator for the Legal Help for Refugees Clinic project, which has assisted thousands of people who arrived by boat in Australia to apply for protection, including a number of people who identify as LGBTQIA+. Hannah became a solicitor in this team in 2017 and continues to work in this team today.

Ian Seal, THREE for All Foundation

<http://www.threeforallfoundation.org>

Ian Seal (B.Ed; M.SocSci) is the founder and Executive Director of THREE for All Foundation and its queer development program, Many Coloured Sky. An activist for more than three decades, Ian established much of the infrastructure and early models supporting LGBTQI young people in Victoria, has worked in development projects with Aboriginal Australians, disadvantaged and LGBTQI communities in Australia, Uganda, Indonesia, the Philippines and elsewhere, was a Research Fellow and Lecturer at the University of Melbourne, and has consulted to UNICEF, UNFPA and Australian and international governments. Ian identifies as queer and lives in Melbourne.

James Mainigi Gathatwa University of Rwanda

James Mainigi Gathatwa is a Kenyan Born LGBT refugee and Human Rights expert. He has worked with local community organizations for more than 9 years – dealing with HIV prevention and offering pre-exposure prophylaxis (PREP). He is currently working as a Programme Officer in Health Options for Young Men on HIV/AIDS/STIs (HOYMAS). A community-based organization in Nairobi Kenya, hosting gay refugees and offering health care services to MSM (Men who have sex with men) and MSW (Male sex workers). He holds a B.Sc. in Medical Laboratory Sciences from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Kenya and finalizing his Master's Degree in Medical Laboratory Sciences at Mount Kenya University, Kenya.

John Marnell, African Centre for Migration and Society, University of the Witwatersrand

John Marnell is a researcher and PhD candidate at the

African Centre for Migration and Society, University of the Witwatersrand. His most recent publication, *Seeking Sanctuary: Sexuality, Faith and Migration in South Africa's Great Metropolis*, will be published by Jacana in November 2019. He is also the author of *Creative Resistance: Participatory Methods for Engaging Queer Youth*.

Joseph Zane Sikulu, Pacific Climate Change Warrior, Pacific Project Coordinator

<https://350.org>

Joseph is the Pacific Regional Campaigner for global climate change advocacy group 350.org. He is a Tongan man and a Pacific Climate Warrior working with Pacific people in 15 Island Nations and with the Pacific Diaspora in Australia, New Zealand and the USA. He works to ensure that in the face of Climate Change the story being told of the Pacific reflects the leadership and resilience displayed by its people. People who are on the frontlines of Climate Change but who are also leading they way and on the forefront of Climate action.

Julie Youssef, University of Melbourne

Julie Youssef is a Master of Social Policy candidate and sessional tutor in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne. She is Coptic Egyptian and identifies as queer. She completed her Honours in 2018 in Criminology and French. Her thesis used Agamben's homo sacer to analyse the role of mutilated bodies in immigration detention as both a tool for state spectacle and a means of resistance among detainees in centres in Manus, Nauru, Vincennes and Canet. Her research interests lie in the areas of punishment, (immigration) detention, migration, and queer exile.

Justine Harris, Settlement Services International

<https://www.ssi.org.au>

Justine Harris is a Clinical Psychologist, and currently the Clinical Practice Manager at Settlement Services International. She is a recognised expert in parenting and family interventions in the area of child protection, juvenile justice and domestic violence. She has been with SSI for 8 months, and is bringing her knowledge of trauma informed approaches to the settlement space. She works directly with clients who have a refugee or asylum seeking background and supports front-line staff. In her non-work life Justine has been involved in Rainbow Families, a volunteer run group supporting LGBTIQ+ parents and their children.

CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

Kate O'Malley, UNHCR Multi-Country Representation based in Canberra

Kate O'Malley is the Senior Policy Advisor to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Multi-Country Representation in Canberra. Prior to this she held two global UNHCR roles. During 2018 she was Senior Consultant on Resettlement Partnerships engaged in promoting third-country solutions for refugees to advance the Global Compact on Refugees, and between 2015 and 2017, she led UNHCR's Resettlement Service as Deputy Director in the Division of International Protection in its Geneva Headquarters. This involved coordinating and delivering resettlement globally, working closely with more than 30 resettlement countries and a broad range of international stakeholders.

Kate spent more than 20 years in the Australian government working in migration and foreign affairs portfolios. Her experience includes development, delivery and evaluation of Australia's refugee resettlement program as well as family migration policy and programs. She held operational roles related to refugees and migration, with postings in Vietnam, Thailand, Greece and Switzerland. Kate was appointed as Minister-Counsellor Migration at the Australian Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva between 2012-2015 where she was engaged in many migration and refugee forums and led on institutional relationships with the headquarters of key UN and other refugee and migration-engaged organisations.

Kavita Gonsalves, Queensland University of Technology

Kavita is a PhD candidate with the Urban Informatics Research Group at the QUT Design Lab. With a focus on activism and transdisciplinary creative engagement, her PhD research focuses on placemaking by marginalised groups through the use of technology, storytelling and play.

Ken Moala, Pacific Sexual & Gender Diversity Network, ILGA Oceania

<https://ilgaoceania.life>

Ken Moala is a trailblazer for LGBTIQ health and rights with 30 years of outstanding service to advance the rights of LGBTIQ people and beyond. Ken is a faafafine, Chaplain and human rights activist from Samoa and Australia.

Ken is a Co Founder Samoa AIDS Foundation, Co Founder & Advisor Pacific Sexual & Gender Diversity Network, Founding Elder: Samoa Faafafine Association, Founding Member GIN SOGGIE (Global Inter Faith), Co

Founder Oceania Rainbow Network, and Co Founder Pacific Rainbow Australasia Network, 2019

Ken sits on the board of ILGA Oceania International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex Association Oceania, GIN SSGIE Global Interfaith Network Sexes Sexual Orientation Gender Identities ^ Expression, PSGDN Pacific Sexual & Gender Diversity Network, Pacific Human Rights Conference and the Uniting Network of the Uniting Church In Australia (LGBTIQ).

LGBTIQ peer-run group for asylum seekers, Asylum Seekers Centre, Sydney

We are a support group for all who come, from all genders, sexualities, religions and cultures. We meet anonymously to make people feel safe. Together we meet to deal with the daily stress of life, the stress of seeking asylum, and the stress of identifying as a member of the LGBTIQ community, culturally. Our meetings are about the reality of the layers of stress each person faces. In this way, we are support for each other.

Liz Rickman, Pride Foundation

<https://pridefoundation.org>

Dr Liz Rickman is a general practitioner in Sydney where she does pro bono work for refugees and asylum seekers. She has worked as an activist for many years in Women's Health and with Greenpeace International on environmental issues. She was awarded an Edna Ryan Award for Leadership as founding member of the Australian Lesbian Medical Association (ALMA) and for her work in ALMA achieving special consultative status with ECOSOC. She is the convener of the Australian Lesbian Medical Association International Issues and Human Rights Sub-committee, and Public Officer for the Australian Federation of Medical Women.

Lotte Wolff, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Lotte Wolff is a Dutch/Australian graduate student at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, with a keen interest in migration and queer theory. Having previously conducted research on issues of credibility assessment for LGBTIQ+ asylum-seekers in the Netherlands, she intends to continue applying queer theory to immigration policy in Australia for her master's dissertation. She is particularly interested in the intersections of colonial history, postcolonial, gender and queer theory, and migration governance.

CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

Margaret Jjuuko, University of Rwanda

Margaret Jjuuko, Ph.D., is Associate professor of Journalism, Media and Communication studies at the School of Journalism and communication, University of Rwanda. She holds a PhD and Master's degrees in Journalism and Media Studies from Rhodes University, South Africa, and a Bachelor of Mass Communication from Makerere University, Uganda. Her research interests are in the areas of media textual production and reception analyses in the areas of development, human rights and social justice, environment and climate change, gender, children's rights, political communication, information and communication technologies (ICTs), media policy and ethics and media education, among other interests.

Margherita Coppolino, National Ethnic Disability Alliance

<http://www.neda.org.au>

Margherita Coppolino is an Inclusion/Intersectionality consultant and photographer. With an outstanding network of contacts in government, business and social justice organisations, Margherita has a proven ability to inspire and influence a wide range of stakeholders on inclusion/intersectionality issues. She has strong commercial acumen and ability to frame inclusion issues in a commercial context. During her career, she also has honed & developed specialist skills in project management, mediation, facilitation, recruitment, case management. Margherita has undertaken the Australia Institute of Company Directors training and has sat a several Boards in Executive and non-executive positions. She was elected as National Ethnic Disability Alliances (NEDA) President in 2017. Previously, she held the position of Chair on Arts Access Victoria and Australia Federation of Disability Organisations (AFDO) Boards. Non-Executive positions on Spectrum Migrants Resources Centre and Action on Disability Within Ethnic Communities, Women With Disabilities Australia and Short Statured People of Australia.

Margherita is first generation Australian, born to Sicilian mother who migrated in the 1959. She was born with a Short Statured condition and is a proud feminist and lesbian.

In her spare time you will find Margherita either taking photos, volunteering, playing Boccia, working out in the gym, travelling, wine and whisky tasting and chilling with friends.

Misha Emingerova, Diverse Identities Gather

Originally from the Czech Republic, Misha is a Meanjin

based community organiser and activist. They strive to work towards achieving justice - both social and environmental as they are intertwined, their practise has been based around refugee and migrant rights. They've been involved with several grassroots organisations, mainly Refugees Welcome Australia (RWA) and more recently Diverse Identities Gather (DIG).

Nan Seuffert, Legal Intersections Research Centre School of Law, University of Wollongong

Professor Nan Seuffert joined the University of Wollongong School of Law in 2012 as a Professor and Director of the Legal Intersections Research Centre (LIRC). She teaches and researches in the areas of critical legal theories, law and history, race, gender, sexuality and the law, and securities regulation. Current projects include "Haunting National Boundaries" on LGBTIQ refugees, "The Effects of Female Genital Mutilation Laws in Australia" with Associate Professor Juliet Rogers and Dr Maree Pardy, "Advancement of Women in Law Firms: Best Practice" with Associate Professor Trish Mundy and "Duress, Social Security Debts and Domestic Violence" with Dr Scarlet Wilcock. She has published widely in refereed law journals and book collections in England, the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand and has been the recipient of numerous national and international research grants.

Niamh Joyce, HIV/AIDS Legal Centre, Sydney

<https://halc.org.au>

Niamh Joyce is a lawyer and migration agent from the HIV/AIDS Legal Centre (HALC). HALC provides direct legal representation to queer refugees and people with HIV/AIDS or Hepatitis related legal problems. We assist asylum seekers in Australia in expressing their claims for protection at primary, review and judicial review stages. These clients are seeking asylum on the basis of their HIV status, sexuality and gender identity, history of injecting drug use and/or history of sex work. HALC have produced topical guides and publications, including a guide for people living with HIV seeking to migrate to Australia, and state-based general HIV disclosure and other legal issues guidelines. Niamh has worked almost extensively with queer asylum seekers, as well as a number of key affected populations for HIV/AIDS.

Niamh is a queer migration lawyer, who's career has focused on queers, migration and recognising the important and rich complexities of the queer community.

CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

Nic Robinson-Griffith, Thorne Harbour Health, Melbourne

<https://thorneharbour.org>

A qualified, practicing Social worker of ten years, Nic Robinson-Griffith has spent the majority of his practice working in the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) sector. Currently, working as the AOD team leader of Thorne Harbour Health, Nic provides specialist AOD counselling to members of the LGBTIQ+ community, and co-facilitates a queer specific therapeutic group. Earlier this year Nic spoke at the 2019 VAADA conference, about the establishment and activation of a world-class harm reduction programme he worked to establish for people experiencing homeless people in Melbourne, and has been published in Parity magazine.

Paul Dillane, London School of Economics and Political Science

Paul Dillane is the David Davies of Llandinam Fellow in International Relations, Department of International Relations, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). In 2019, he was appointed by the Minister for Women and Equalities as an expert member of the UK government's LGBT Advisory Panel. His previous roles included a career in immigration and asylum law, Refugee Researcher/Adviser at Amnesty International UK, Executive Director of UKLGIG, the UK's national LGBTI asylum NGO, and Executive Director of Kaleidoscope Trust / Head of the Secretariat of The Commonwealth Equality Network (TCEN). A specialist in forced migration, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics, he is a drafter and signatory of the Yogyakarta Principles plus 10 and has provided training to judges, lawyers, officials and civil society organisations in numerous countries including on behalf of UNHCR, Council of Europe, ILGA Europe and Transgender Europe. He has previously served as a board member of the Human Rights Lawyers' Association (HRLA) and Detention Forum – a coalition of NGOs campaigning against indefinite immigration detention.

Rasel Ahmed, Columbia University

Rasel Ahmed is a transdisciplinary artist and community-based archivist. He is the co-founder of Bangladesh's first and only printed LGBT magazine Roopbaan and produced a comic book featuring Asia's first Muslim lesbian comic heroine. He is currently doing his MFA in Visual Art and Moving Image Practices at the Columbia University.

Renee Dixon, Australian National University

Renee Dixon is a PhD candidate at the Australian National University. Renee's research interests are digital humanities, queer theory, feminist theory, and the intersection of gender, sexuality and refugee status.

In addition, Renee and her partner Tina Dixon are running a peer support and advocacy group for queer refugee women in Australia.

Ruth McNair AM, Pride Foundation

<https://pridefoundation.org>

Ruth McNair AM is a general practitioner and an Honorary Associate Professor at University of Melbourne. She has clinical, education and research interests in LGBT health, and is a member of the Victorian Government LGBTI Taskforce (2015-2019). Ruth is Chairperson of Pride Foundation Australia, a national philanthropic organisation for LGBTIQ people. She was inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women in 2017. She became a Member of the Order of Australia on the Queen's Birthday honours in 2019 for significant service to medicine and as an advocate for the LGBTI community.

Samia Goudie, University of Canberra

Samia Goudie is a Bundjalung woman who was adopted and grew up in Canberra due to the removal policies in Australia. She left home in her teens and worked on Yachts from Cairns to India and through the America's living with First Nations communities over a period of 12yrs. In her 30's She found her birth mother and reconnected with extended family.

Samia is a Mother, film maker, writer and poet and an Associate Professor with the University of Canberra. Her work has won a number of Awards Internationally and Nationally. She finds solace with the ocean and birdsongs.

Samia Sayed, Twenty10 inc GLCS NSW

<https://www.twenty10.org.au>

Samia Sayed is a Sydney based artist, writer and curator and is currently employed at Twenty10 Inc GLCS NSW as the Client Engagement Officer- Groups and Projects. Twenty10 is a housing, counseling and social support service for LGBTQIA+ folks aged between 12 and 25 years. A major part of her job is facilitating social support groups, art workshops, and community development projects.

Through her work, she explores that which she has

CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

lived through and witnessed to be queer, radical forms of resistance within the domestic, religious and cultural spheres. Drawing upon the influences of her creative practice Samia aims to cultivate community through nuanced forms of social engagement. Samia has been involved in and pioneered many community projects. In the projects she is involved in, particularly the Queer Monthly Gathering, she aims to create a safer environment for folks who come from marginalised backgrounds to connect. Accessibility, discretion, food, consistency and a relaxed chilled out space is integral to every social support group and community project she organises.

Sarina Jackson, Pride Foundation

<https://pridefoundation.org>

Sarina Jackson is a partner of a national legal firm. She is a board member of the Pride Foundation Australia, a national philanthropic organisation for LGBTIQ people and has a keen interest in the advocacy of minority groups within the LGBTIQ sector. She sits as a Pride Foundation Australia representative on the national advisory group set up on queer refugees and asylum seekers.

Sophie de Rohan, Refugee Legal, Melbourne

<https://refugeellegal.org.au>

Sophie de Rohan is a highly skilled practitioner who has worked for Refugee Legal as a solicitor and Migration Agent for 11 years. Sophie is responsible for managing a large caseload of Protection Visa applicants, many whose claims centre around their sexuality, as well as clients seeking assistance in relation to a variety of other visa types and the cancellation of visas.

Sophie regularly presents Refugee Legal CPD seminars on protection issues, partner visas and family violence and information sessions for community workers and community members. In 2014 Sophie co-facilitated training with the Organisation for Refuge, Asylum and Migration (ORAM) on LGBTQIA+ and Protection issues for refugee assistance agencies.

Sophie is a member of the Pride Foundation Australia (PFA) LGBTQIA+ Asylum seeker and refugee advisory group.

Susan Cameron-Jung, Settlement Services International

<https://www.ssi.org.au>

Susan Cameron-Jung is Area Coordinator for a disability program with Settlement Services International (SSI), supporting people, families and carers from culturally

and linguistically diverse communities. She has been with SSI for over a year and worked in senior leadership positions in disability including NDIS and LAC for 15 years. Susan identifies as a lesbian and passionately contributes to the LGBTIQ+ space as a life coach. She helped establish the Love and Disability Festival, an interactive educational program for people of all cultural backgrounds, sexual orientation and gender expression, and recently facilitated a panel at an LGBTIQ+ Forum for settlement workers.

Susan Farrar, Twenty10 inc GLCS NSW

<https://www.twenty10.org.au>

Susan Farrar has been working at Twenty10 inc GLCS NSW for the last seven years in the role of Client Services Manager. Within this role Susan collaborates with the client services team to deliver a suite of services for young LGBTIQ+ people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. These services include transitional housing, counselling, case management, a drop in service and many wonderful groups and projects.

Prior to this Susan worked at The Kirketon Road Centre for five years in the role of Youth projects Coordinator. Before this role they spent three years working at the Alice Springs Youth Accommodation and Support Service in the crisis accommodation support team and also at the Northern Territory Aids and Hepatitis Council as the youth projects officer.

Susan volunteers with Camp Out and has done so for the past five years. Camp Out is a week long camp run specifically for LGBTIQ-identified or questioning young people aged 13-17.

Susan feels incredibly grateful to have met so many wonderful young people who despite the barriers and adversity they face can still be so patient, creative, persevering and resilient. Susan especially enjoys working with the “rascals”, “trouble makers” and “complex” clients.

Tina Dixson, Australian National University

Tina Dixson is a feminist academic and a policy professional, who has worked in the areas of LGBTIQ, refugee and women's rights both in Australia and overseas. Tina has a strong experience engaging with the international human rights bodies such as CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women) and international policies such as Global Compact on Refugees.

Tina is a PhD candidate at the Australian National University researching lived experiences of LGBTIQ asylum-seeking and refugee women in Australia.

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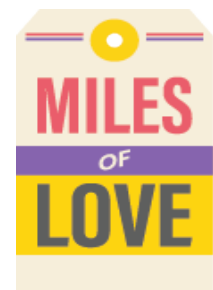
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