

# NETWORKS FOR CHANGE AND WELLBEING

## NEWSLETTER 2

Networks for Change and Wellbeing;

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*IDRC Grant/ Subvention du CRDI: 107777-001-Networks for Change and Well-being: "From the Ground Up" Policy-making to Address Sexual Violence against Girls*

# NETWORKS FOR CHANGE AND WELL-BEING

Girl-led 'From the Ground Up' Policy Making to Address  
Sexual Violence in Canada and South Africa

## Issue 2: February 2016

### Dear Partners

As promised in our first newsletter in 2015, as part of our communication strategy, a newsletter will be sent to you several times a year highlighting the project's activities and events. In this particular newsletter, we want to provide you, as partners and stakeholders, with an update on the project's activities in both Canada and South Africa, as well as highlight some of the activities we have planned for this year.

As we reported in our first newsletter, much of Year One was spent getting this transnational project 'up and running'. At last we are happy to report that most of the 'setting up' activities (getting institutional ethics clearance, setting up agreements for disbursement of funds to various partners; recruiting postgraduate students and hiring staff; and establishing appropriate governance structures that take account of the participation of the key communities) are now complete or at an advanced stage. We thank all of you for your hard work, useful input and patience in the work and 'back and forth' communication leading to this achievement.

This issue of the newsletter, our second, serves to highlight some of the research activities and publications linked to the project, as well some very exciting developments in relation to having Indigenous youth interns from Canada visiting South Africa. Further, we highlight some of the important activities planned for the rest of this year. We hope that we will be able to meet and/or 'talk' on a regular basis as a transnational project so that we remain informed and up to date about each others' doings, achievements and concerns.

Best regards,  
Claudia and Lebo

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# STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

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December 14-15<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Durban, South Africa

The first Steering Committee of “*Networks for Change and Well-being: Girl-led ‘From the Ground Up’ Policy Making to Address Sexual Violence in Canada and South Africa*” met near Durban, South Africa, December 14 and 15. The meeting brought together from South Africa: Relebohile Moletsane (Co-Director), Crispin Hemson (DUT), Janine Hicks (CGE), Bernhard Gaede (Centre for Rural Health), Naydene De Lange (NMMU), Linda Theron (NWU), Takatso Mohlomi and Lelethu Mlobeli (Girls Leading Change), and Astrid Treffrey-Goatley (UKZN). From Canada: Claudia Mitchell (Co-Director), Saman Ahsan (Girls Action Foundation), Jessica Danforth (NYSHN), Kari-Dawn Wuttunee and Melody McKiver (NIYWC), and Michelle Harazny (McGill) - with two skyped in members Carrie Rentschler (McGill) and Steve Jordan (McGill).

The two days gave time to talk through governance, the nodes (now called working groups), and planning. One of the most important aspects of the Steering Committee was to work out how a girls and young women’s advisory committee could operate, with two members of the NIYWC and two members from Girls Leading Change present.



# A Perspective on Attending the Steering Committee Meeting

Kari Wuttunee

tân'si My name is Kari Wuttunee and I'm from Red Pheasant Cree Nation that is located in Eagle Hills of Treaty Six Territory on Turtle Island. I am a council member for the National Indigenous Young Women's Council (NIYWC). We are a self-governed council of Indigenous young women under 30 years of age. It includes those who identify as Trans, Two-Spirit, and/or gender non-conforming. The Council works to provide leadership opportunities, community actions and mobilization, and skills-training and capacity building. The Council also develops spaces for celebration, reclamation and cultural resurgence with a vision for future generations.

Recently the NIYWC began a new collaborative partnership with researchers from McGill University, the Girls Action Foundation, and the University of KwaZulu-Natal to explore the experiences of young Indigenous women in South Africa and Canada and the relations to gender-based colonial violence.

Along with myself, another council member Melody McKiver (who is an urban Anishinaabe musician with ancestry in Lac Seul First Nation) were invited to Durban, South Africa. In Durban we met the other half of the research group and we spent two days outlining the project and sharing in our experience with NIYWC and the role of mentorship.



We met Lelethu and Takatso, two young Indigenous women who are a part of Girls Leading Change. Lelethu and Takatso are also students at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.

We had the chance to visit a local transition home for orphaned South African babies and children that also operates a breast milk bank.



When traveling in other communities, it is always important for us to take the time to visit with local organizers doing work in the community.

We are looking forward to the next step of the research project and formulating a strong network of young Indigenous women across our two lands – we hope to learn more from one another and work in solidarity and break through the systems of gender based violence together.



# Meet our new...



Lisa Wiebesiek

## Project Coordinator

Lisa has recently accepted the position of project co-ordinator in South Africa for the *Networks for Change and Well-being* partnership. She will take up the position under Professor Lebo Moletsane at the University of KwaZulu-Natal on February 15<sup>th</sup> 2016. Lisa's work at the Human Sciences Research Council over the last four years has focused on rural education development. She has worked as a Project Director for the MAC AIDS fund Leadership Initiative at the Human Sciences Research Council, and as a lecturer at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Lisa's doctoral study involves working with adolescent girls in rural KwaZulu-Natal to explore constructions and performances of femininities in the context of gender-based violence, HIV and AIDS and poverty.

## Web Designer & Communications

Jessica is the deep-thinking, quick-witted (and perhaps heavily caffeinated) opinion columnist at *The Eastern Door* newspaper in Kahnawake. In addition to working in journalism for the past seven years, the 25-year-old Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) woman is the president of the Kahnawake Youth Forum, and does freelance graphic and web design during her spare time.



Jessica Deer

## Ethics Coordinator

April is a SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow in McGill's Department of Integrated Studies in Education. She has a doctorate in Art Education and her research interests include the social aspects of artistic production, asset-based rural education, and participatory methods. April is a coordinator for the Partnership's indigenous ethical protocols, which involves liaising with institutional and community partners to develop context-specific engagement methods. Currently, she is also the guest editor of a special issue of *Girlhood Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal* exploring links between ethics and girlhood studies. She is an active member of the Institute for Human Development and Well-being and the Centre for Visual Methodologies for Social Change at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She will be taking up a position at the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design (NSCAD) in July, 2016.



April Mandrona

## Post-Doctoral Research Fellow



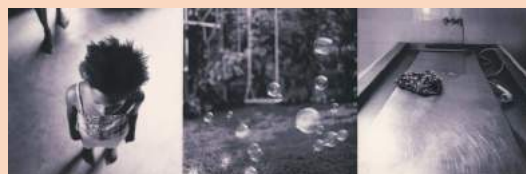
Astrid Treffry-Goatley

Astrid is a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, under the tutelage of Professor Relebohile Moletsane. She is currently involved in this project, exploring:

1. personal experiences and interpretations of gender inequity and HIV amongst girls and young women from rural South Africa and
2. the ethical challenges that arise when applying participatory methodologies to better understand the lives of this vulnerable population group.

Astrid was an AW Mellon PhD fellow at the University of Cape Town and completed her undergraduate studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Her research interests lie in ethnomusicology, South African cinema, gender and women's health, public engagement and the ethics of community based participatory research. In recent years she has focused on the advancement of participatory methodologies, in particular digital storytelling, for supporting public engagement with science and has collaborated actively with researchers in several other disciplines to critically examine the use of such methods to investigate the health experiences of vulnerable population groups in South Africa. Astrid is the first author of 15 peer-reviewed publications, has presented orally at over 10 international conferences and has been involved in the production of 5 films.

## DUT DIALOGUE: SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY



Angela Buckland "My birthday Wish" Digital print

We tackle an issue frequently silenced, that of sexual violence and how it impacts on the university community. There is increasing information on sexual violence both on campus and in the lives of those who come to campus; the role of this feminist dialogue is to open up discussion on what happens, what its effects are and how we combat it. Discussion will include young women from NMMU and DUT speaking of their experiences and concerns.

The next issue of Agenda: Gender and Climate Change, will be launched at the Dialogue.

**EVENT DETAILS:** DATE: 19 August 2015 TIME: 12:30 pm - 15:30 pm VENUE: Mansfield Hall  
Refreshments will be provided.

### DIALOGUE PROGRAMME

12:30 Welcome

Prof Sibusiso Moyo, Director, Research Management and Development, DUT

12:40 Outline of dialogue and collaboration

Janine Hicks, Gender Commissioner

12:55 Student panel

Students of NMMU and DUT

13:30 Refreshments

14:00 Open dialogue

14:30 Way ahead for Universities

ProfThenjiwe Meyiwa, Registrar, DUT

14:45 Agenda Journal Launch: Climate change

15:25 Vote of Thanks

ProfThenjiwe Meyiwa



Discussion revealed the extent of unexamined stereotypes, such as when two senior students blamed other women for wearing scanty clothing. Some men at least articulated their concern at sexual violence, and it seems that this was the spark for a men's group formed in September, the Amajita ("Guys"). At least a promising start has been made.

## DUT DIALOGUE: Sexual Violence and the Campus Community

Crispin Hemson

Judging by the discussion at the first DUT Dialogue on sexual violence on campus, we have a long, long road ahead. This Dialogue, held on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2015, is one of a series at Durban University of Technology that focuses on the reality of staff and student experience. It drew on joint organization by the International Centre of Nonviolence, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, the University of KwaZulu-Natal and Agenda, partners in *Networks for Change and Well-being*.



Attendance was promising, drawing in a good number from the DUT community. The presentations by students from DUT and NMMU were a highlight, as they spoke simply and directly about experiences that they insist must be tackled. The NMMU students have already started to take action on issues such as unsafe spaces. Nokuthula Shezi from DUT spoke of the constant harassment on campus, "*Sometimes it feels as if every guy on campus has the right to tell me how sexy they think I am.*"





# Indigenous Youth Interns in Canada

## Leaving for South Africa

We are delighted to announce that three Indigenous youth interns in Canada are heading off to spend the next five months at the Centre for Visual Methodologies and Social Change at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. The initiative is sponsored by the Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD) in partnership with Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN). A consortium project was launched to deliver the International Aboriginal Youth Internship (IAYI) Initiative with funding from Global Affairs Canada (formerly DFATD). For this two-year project, “*Breaking Barriers, Building Connections: Canadian Indigenous Youth in Global Health*”, ICAD and CAAN have partnered with CAP/AIDS Network, University of Saskatchewan, Lethbridge HIV Connection Society, and Native Youth Sexual Health Network to form a consortium that will facilitate a total of 20 internships for Aboriginal youth (10 youth internship placements per year) in Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi and South Africa.

The component of the consortium project in South Africa is organized within the International Partnerships for Sustainable Societies (IPaSS) program, funded through IDRC and SSHRC, “*Networks for Change and Well-being: Girl-led ‘From the Ground Up’ Policy-making to Address Sexual Violence in Canada and South Africa*.” As part of the project, six Aboriginal youth interns over the two years will be attached to the Centre for Visual Methodologies

and Social Change (UKZN), working in areas such as participatory visual methodologies, social media and documentation, and supported through the Participatory Cultures Lab, McGill. Three interns have been selected for a five month internship starting in March at the Centre for Visual Methodologies and Social Change.

- Rakiya Larkin, Documentation and Research Assistant from Victoria, British Columbia
- Alicia Morrow, New Media Assistant from Regina, Saskatchewan
- Tara Willett, Youth Engagement Coordinator from Victoria, British Columbia

Each internship offers Indigenous youth from Canada on-the-ground, applied experience in vast areas of global health and HIV and AIDS. Interns learn about and contribute to a variety of culturally-specific HIV and AIDS prevention, care and support services that focus on meeting the needs of local populations.

*The internships will strengthen the partnerships between international Indigenous communities in addressing HIV/AIDS and enhance the capacity of interns to better understand efforts in the promotion and protection of human rights, which are critical to altering the course of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.*

Ken Celement  
Canadian Aboriginal  
AIDS Network, CEO

*“This type of collaborative action-based learning allows interns to gain first-hand experience in the day-to-day activities of front-line HIV/AIDS organizations, contribute to the strengthening of community-based HIV responses in lower income countries, while also drawing linkages and sharing lessons learned between international and domestic efforts of HIV/AIDS.”*

Robin Montgomery  
ICAD, Executive Director

“The internships will also serve to increase the employment skills of Indigenous youth from Canada and raise public awareness and understanding of frontline international development issues by providing Canada’s Indigenous youth leaders with the opportunity to learn from experts in the field.”

The Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development is a coalition of over 100 Canadian AIDS Service organizations (ASOs), international development non-governmental organizations (INGOS), faith-based organizations, educational institutions, labour unions and individuals committed to improving the response to HIV and related co-infections in Canada and in countries globally.



# Meet our new youth interns...

## Documentation & Research Assistant



**Rakiya Larkin**

My name is Rakiya Larkin and I was born and raised in Victoria, BC. I have been an advocate for all those affected by and or living with HIV and AIDS since a very young age. From public speaking about this epidemic all over Canada, to participating in documentaries about HIV and AIDS and having the honour of participating in community-based research projects, such as the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Networks *Family Matters* project, an initiative that focuses on Aboriginal Families living with and affected by HIV and AIDS. We are looking at the programs and services that are available for Aboriginal families living with and affected by HIV and AIDS. We ask what those living with and affected by HIV and AIDS need in terms of support and how their suggestions can be implemented. This is an extremely important project, as it is the first of its kind that has been developed by Positive Aboriginal Warriors (PAW) fighters and families of this movement.

## Youth Engagement Coordinator



**Tara Willett**

My name is Tara Willett and I am a Nehiyaw woman from Little Pine First Nation in Saskatchewan. I studied International Development at the First Nations University of Canada in Saskatchewan and now live and work in Victoria, BC. I am excited to be included this internship program. I have been working with young people for over 10 years. When I was in elementary and high school, I was involved with a group in Regina called A.C.T (Anti-Racism Cross-Cultural Team-Development), where I worked with teachers and older students to facilitate teambuilding workshops amongst young people and talk about the issues that were important to us. When I was 14, I got involved with Planned Parenthood whose focus was on harm reduction and sexual health education. At 15, I represented Saskatchewan on the Native Youth Sexual Health Network's national board of youth, which gave me the opportunity to speak with other youth about the social issues that affect young people across the country. I love working with young people, and am excited to see what I can contribute to this project and what skills we can bring back to Canada to further the work in our own communities.

## New Media Assistant



**Alicia Morrow**

My name is Alicia Morrow; I am 22 years old from Regina, Saskatchewan. My family comes from Skamay First Nations Reserve. I've been working with Street Culture Project located in Regina for a year and a half. This last year I have found a new passion for addressing issues on HIV/AIDS in Saskatchewan. I became a council member for the Saskatchewan Indigenous Youth Advisory Council. Our council was created to increase awareness, education, and prevention of HIV transmission by sharing the knowledge, reducing the stigma and help our young people live a positive lifestyle. I strongly feel we need to address these issues to the younger generation, to let them know it is acceptable to talk about these situations. I am currently completing my Bachelor in Education degree. The internship caught my attention, mainly for the knowledge I will retain and the experience I will receive from this internship as this is once in a lifetime opportunity. I will be able to take my skills I have from working with youth in Canada and apply it to the internship and vice versa for my return home.



# Sexual Violence

## Research Initiative Conference

Stellenbosch, South Africa  
14-17 September 2015

Bongiwe Maome



Above: Setting up the exhibition  
Right: Melissa Lufefe talking at the exhibition  
Below: Audience engagement



Melissa Lufefe, Bongiwe Maome and Zethu Jiyana of the Girls Leading Change project set off to contribute to the Sexual Violence Research Initiative Conference (SVRI) 2015. The conference was a new and refreshing experience for us as 'Girls Leading Change'. It was an opportunity to share our work with a mix of national and international audiences involved in similar projects and initiatives aimed at confronting sexual violence in different contexts, countries and continents.

The conference created a space for our research team, Professor Naydene de Lange and Relebohile Moletsane (South Africa), Professor Claudia Mitchell (Canada), Professor Katja Gillander-Gåd, Katarina Giritli-Nygren and Sara Nyhlen (Sweden) and three of the 'Girls Leading Change' representatives (Zethu Jiyana, Bongi Maome and Melissa Lufefe) to present a special session: *Seeing how it works: Transnational dialogue on the use of the visual and digital media in girl-led 'from the ground up' policy making to addressing sexual violence*. The depth of understanding and the level of dedication of participants in the forum was apparent to us throughout the conference and inspired us to continue to build on and improve our work. It also reassured us that however small and seemingly insignificant our efforts may seem, they are significant steps towards confronting a global problem and that is all the more reason for us to continue leading change in the spaces that we are in, using all that we have gained from this opportunity.



# Still Dancing

Haidee Smith Lefebvre  
Paige Isaac

STILL DANCING, a free public event in support of a national inquiry into Canada's missing and murdered Indigenous girls and women, represents success on many levels. Before enumerating these achievements, we briefly describe the event that took place October 28, 2015.



Despite a tremendous rainstorm, participants arrived promptly at Montreal's McCord Museum. After registering, they were invited to smudge — a ceremonial cleansing of mind, body, spirit and emotion by fanning swirls of smoke from head to toe. Typically, the smoke comes from burning sacred medicinal plants such as sweet grass or sage. Local elders, Jean Stevenson and Delbert Sampson offered a ceremonial opening.

We named the event after Jonathan Labillois' original painting of an Onkwehón:we fancy dancer wearing a shawl made from a single page of missing women issued by the Vancouver police department.

During the ceremony, Kahnawa'kehró:non Frank Horn performed an honor song for the victims and their families as Marié-Céline Charron performed a shawl dance. Charron brought the theme of our event, still dancing, to life.

After the ceremonial opening, participants watched the documentary Highway of Tears about missing and murdered women along a 724-kilometer stretch of highway in northern British Columbia. Following the movie, family members, activists, and the filmmaker engaged with the audience by sharing their perspectives on the national crisis. The evening concluded with the elders' closing ceremony. The guest panelists were: Dr. Dawn Lavell Harvard, (President, Native Women's Association of Canada); Delilah Saunders (sister of Loretta Saunders), Gladys Radek (aunt of Tamara Lynn Chipman and founder of Tears4Justice), Matt Smiley (filmmaker), and Megan Kanerahtenháwi Whyte (National Indigenous Young Women's Council).

STILL DANCING's success comes in large measure from the care taken to create an event from an Indigenous perspective. The Indigenous ceremonies, culture, and voices called attention to sexual violence as a historical and contemporary reality resulting from colonial legacies. In its own way, the solidarity of Indigenous and non-Indigenous who came together that stormy October evening contributed to the momentum to launch a national inquiry into the 1,186 Aboriginal women on the RCMP's list of missing and murdered girls and women. We are very happy to report that on December 8, 2015, the Canadian Government launched the first phase of a national inquiry. You can find more details at:

[www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca](http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca)

## Additional STILL DANCING achievements include:

- 300 registrants triple projected amount of 100;
- 250 participants increased fivefold the projected amount of 50;
- 125 watch live stream from Canada, France, Sweden and the United States;
- Audience ranged in age from infancy to elderly, were a mix of Indigenous and non-Indigenous, and self-identified as student, staff, faculty and community.



The event was sponsored by a university-community partnership comprised of two universities, six departments, and one museum. The principal partners were:

- McGill's First Peoples' House
- Social Equity and Diversity Education Office
- Participatory Cultures Lab
- The McCord Museum

Additional sponsors were:

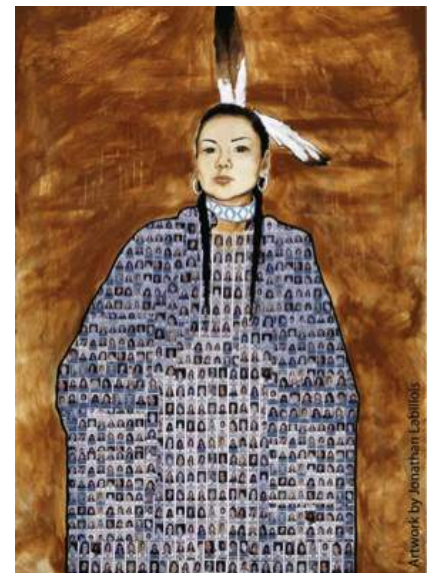
- The McGill Institute for Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies
- Indigenous Access McGill
- The School of Community and Public Affairs and First Peoples Studies Program at Concordia University

As a whole, the partnership represented a shared intention to better understand historical and contemporary gendered and state violence that creates a social context where so little is done or known about missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.

Interested readers are encouraged to watch the live stream at:

<http://tvmtelevision.com/still-dancing-qa/>

Please note opening performances and speeches begin at the six-minute mark and the panel discussion begins at the 1:35 minute mark.



“Dancers dance for those who cannot: the sick, the elders, and those who are gone. It is like all those women are still dancing through her.”

## Digital Media-Making for Indigenous Women and Two Spirited Folks

### A Cellphone Video and Podcast-Making Workshop

Casey Burkholder  
Katie MacEntee

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 at McGill University, Molly Swain, Katie MacEntee and Casey Burkholder, facilitated a 3-hour Digital Media making workshop to engage Indigenous women and two spirited folks in media making and leadership practices around gender-based violence. The workshop was an intimate experience attended by four Montreal community members interested in exploring how to use digital technology to address issues of gendered violence, which intersects with the legacies of colonial violence on Indigenous communities in Canada. Guided by Casey's [Digital Media Making Toolkit for Engagement](#), the group learned how to use mobile technology — including cellphones and tablets — to create short videos that send a message or educate others about a particular issue or event. In less than one hour, the group worked together to produce 4 cellfilms that took up identifying and resisting gendered violence affecting communities. The participants particularly enjoyed using iPad Minis, provided by the Participatory Culture Lab with the support of the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, to film, edit, and disseminate their short videos online with their friends and family. One participant also used their own cellphone to make a short stop-motion video exploring the same themes.

Tamara from CKUT, McGill's non-profit campus radio station, was also on hand to record additional audio for some of the cellfilms and produce a short podcast documenting the events of the workshop. The enthusiasm and insights provided by the workshop participants are palpable in the cellfilms they produced as they take up themes such as ceremony, community, support, sexism, racism, sexuality, belonging, rights to self-determination, self-governance, and resilience.

This workshop was a partnership between *Networks for Change and Well-Being: Girl-led 'From the Ground Up' Policy-making to Address Sexual Violence in Canada and South Africa*, SEDE, First Peoples' House at McGill, and CKUT. The workshop coincided with the McGill's Community Engagement Day: an annual project from McGill's Social Equity and Diversity Education Office that celebrates and recognizes the community engagement efforts that connect McGill to Montreal community groups.

# Masters & PhD Students in the Network

In each issue of the newsletter, we hope to highlight the work of graduate and post-graduate students involved in the project.

## Exploring Resilience Processes in Sexually Abused Black African Girls through the Use of Visual Participatory Methods

Sadiyaa Haffajee

Promoter: Professor Linda Theron  
North West University  
Vaal Triangle Campus, South Africa

*'I Have Life: Alison's Journey'* (1998) explicitly describes the horrific multiple sexual assaults and attempted murder of Alison by two unknown perpetrators in 1994. Alison against all odds survived this heinous act; alternatively walking and crawling to get help after being left for dead, physically holding her body, that had been gutted open, together and mentally willing herself not to succumb to her injuries. In the months and years following her ordeal, Alison describes a tumultuous path to recovery that eventually led to her becoming an inspirational speaker, author and now playwright.

Similarly, in *'Dear Bullet'* (2012), Sixolile Mbalo describes her capture, sexual assault and violent shooting at age 13. In her retelling she describes the trauma of the rape, being shot and left to die in an outdoor latrine and her attempts to escape the memories. Her ordeal was further exacerbated by poverty, maternal neglect and limited resources within a rural South African community. In spite of these adverse circumstances, Sixolile went on to become a rape activist and author.

What made it possible for Alison and Sixolile to adjust positively in spite of the trauma they had experienced? Are

their stories an exception? International research suggests that such stories of positive adaptation are not extraordinary; sexual abuse does not affect all individuals in the same way. While a plethora of research report on the deleterious impact of sexual abuse, some research points to the survivor's positive adjustment in responding to the adversity demonstrating a resilient trajectory (see Browne & Finkelhor, 1986; Cicchetti, 2013; Collishaw et al., 2007; Finkelhor, 1994; Kendall-Tackett, Williams, & Finkelhor, 2001; McElheran et al., 2012; Phasha, 2010; Williams & Nelson-Gardell, 2012).

Alison's and Sixolile's stories, while highlighting resilience processes, also brings into focus the act of telling the story. Literature seems to suggest that the act of telling one's story may represent a way of taking charge of it; and is seen as a process of empowerment and personal transformation (Low, Brushwood Rose, Salvio, & Palacios, 2012). Visual participatory methods, that captures the audience through pictures, words, drama and photographs has also been credited with facilitating this process of agency and transformation. Low et al. (2012) contend that advocates of participatory visual methods associate the teller's participation as a 'manifestation of her agency...participation is seen as both the evidence and the actualisation of the agentic self' (p. 55). My study is thus premised on research that suggests that:

1. Sexual abuse survivors can and do demonstrate resilience.
2. Telling one's story, may be empowering to some degree
3. Visual participatory methods have the potential to facilitate positive adaptation and transformation.



To facilitate my understanding of how and why some sexual abuse survivors are resilient, I will be interviewing indigenous marginalised girls that reside in a child care Centre in South Africa. I will employ a range of visual participatory methods that includes participatory diagramming as part of the individual interviews and participatory video and posters in the group process. Data will be analysed using grounded theory analysis.

To date, ethics approval has been granted by the ethics committee at North West University, and the Advisory Panel (AP) has been established with the first AP meeting held in December 2015. During this process, 8 potential participants were identified. At this point, I'm waiting for the girls to consent. Then I'm all set to go!!

# Current Publications

Perspectives in Education [2015, 33(4)]  
*Critical Perspectives On Digital Spaces In Educational Research*

Agenda [2015, 29(3)]  
Special Issue: *Intervention to Address Sexual Violence: Transforming Violent Cultures for and with Girls and Young Women*



# Forthcoming Publications

Girlhood Studies [2016]  
*Ethical practices in the study of girlhood* (guest edited by April Mandrona)

Girlhood Studies [2016]  
*Indigenous Girlhoods* (guest edited by National Indigenous Young Women's Council and Sarah Flicker)

Agenda [2017]  
*Indigenous arts-based approaches to addressing sexual violence*

Girlhood Studies [2018]  
*Girl-led interventions addressing sexual violence*

# Upcoming Events

Networks for Change and Wellbeing Partnership to participate at the  
6<sup>th</sup> International Indigenous Pre-Conference on HIV and AIDS

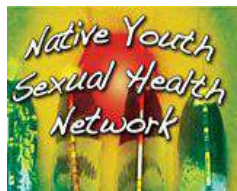
July, 2016  
Durban, South Africa

Members of the *Networks for Change and Well-being* partnership, from both Canada and South Africa, will be participating in the 6<sup>th</sup> International Indigenous Pre-conference on HIV and AIDS which will take place in Durban, South Africa preceding the International AIDS Conference (IAC) in July of 2016 (AIDS 2016). Focusing on Africa in particular, this pre-conference aims to explore the meanings of the term “Indigenous” in the Southern African context and how the varied understandings of the concept have functioned as a barrier to an Indigenous-led HIV response in the region. The interactive activities at the pre-conference aim to build a strong alliance among Indigenous Peoples from across the world in the development of Indigenous-led HIV response in Africa and elsewhere.

In addition to participating at the pre-conference, members of the *Networks for Change and Wellbeing* partnership will also hold a project meeting in Durban during this period. In the hope that most, if not all partner institution will have obtained ethics clearance from their institutions by then, the meeting is aimed at clarifying data collection focus/foci, finalizing research tools and consolidating data collection plans.



## Partners



## Current Stakeholders



National Council Against  
Gender-Based Violence,  
South Africa



## Contact

### Co-Directors

Claudia Mitchell  
claudia.mitchell@mcgill.ca  
McGill University

Relebohile Moletsane  
moletsaner@ukzn.ac.za  
University of KwaZulu-Natal

### Project Coordinator

Michelle Harazny  
michelle.harazny@mcgill.ca  
1 (514) 398 4527 ext. 094461

### Address

Participatory Cultures Lab  
McGill University  
3715 Peel Street, Room 221,  
Montreal, QC H3A 1X1  
[participatorycultureslab.com](http://participatorycultureslab.com)