CULTURE-CENTERED ORGANIZING AT THE MARGINS OF THE MARGINS: TRANSGENDER HEALTH, HATE AND DEMOCRACY



Mohan J. Dutta,

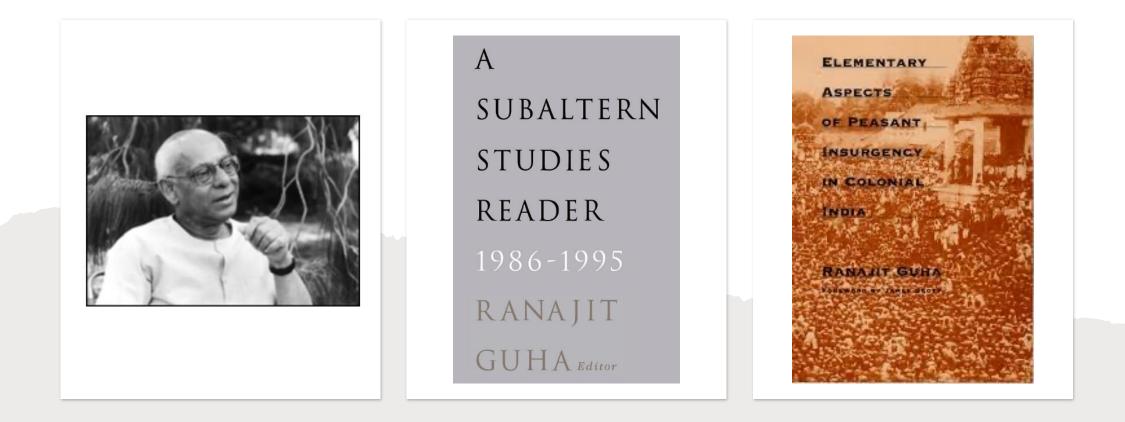
Center for Culture-centered Approach to Research and Evaluation (CARE)

O U T L I N E

- Features of the CCA
- Culture-centered interventions
- Transgender health

Three sites: India, Singapore, Aotearoa New Zealand

• Community, democracy and hate



PROFESSOR RANAJIT GUHA (1923-2023)

FEATURES OF THE CCA

- Health is situated at the intersections of culture, structure, and agency
- Health is constituted through meanings in flux
- Cultures are dynamic sites of meaning making
- Hegemonic power and control/Transformation
- Communicative inequality and health inequality
- **Communicative erasure** shapes health inequalities
- Communities as spaces of negotiating power/Elite capture
- "Margins of the margins"

Guha, 1999; Spivak, 1999; Airhihenbuwa, 2000; Dutta, 2004a, 2004b, 2008, 2016; Basu & Dutta, 2008; Dutta & Basnyat, 2008; Dutta & Pal, 2010; Dutta & Kaur-Gill, 2018; Sastry & Dutta, 2013; Dutta et al., 2019; Sastry et al., 2019



Who is not present in this space?

====

Which voices are not reflected here?

MAKING SPACE FOR THE UNHEARD...



How can we invite those voices in?

CULTURE-CENTERED APPROACH

- ✤ "Learning to Learn from Below" (Spivak, 2004)
- Patient listening to an ethic of the other
- Working toward an/"other" imagination
- Community-owned voice infrastructures
- Digital infrastructures for structural transformation

Inverting the dominant structures of meaning making.

CULTURE-CENTERED INTERVENTIONS

- Co-creating voice infrastructures at the "margins of the margins"/intersectional negotiations
- Community advisory groups (CAGs) as open-ended spaces for inviting difference
- CAGs driving the research problem, research questions, research design and sensemaking process
- CAGs participating in identifying the structures that need to be transformed/challenged
- CAGs driving the organizing to transform structures
- Academics in solidarity/*Body on the line*

TRANSLATIONAL IMPACT: CARE

✤120+ communities; 9 countries; 3 continents

Community-led public advocacy campaigns; white papers, policy briefs, 360 degrees campaign resources

Community-led advocacy 27+ sources of clean drinking water

Community-led advocacy for building 10+ community-led sustainable irrigation systems

Advocacy for 25+ development projects (roads, schools, hospitals, etc.)

Cultural infrastructures

Health infrastructures: Community gardens; Alexandra hospital scale up; "Town of the future" – Housing Development Board, Singapore & Center for Livable Cities

Community mutual aid: COVID-19

Community-led empowered ageing communities

Community-led prevention of violence



CARE

ACTIVIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAMME

with TINA NGATA 15th - 18th May 2023 CARE Manawatu campus Massey Univeristy

ACTIVIST IN RESIDENCE EVENTS

15th May - CARE AIRP Public Talk – LIVE

16th May - CARE AIRP Workshop

17th May - CARE In Conversation with Tina Ngata & Prof. Mohan Dutta

18th May - CARE AIRP White Paper Launch – LIVE

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR MORE EVENT DETAILS



Tina Ngata Ngati Porou East Coast of Te Ika a Maui ACTIVIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAMME

- Building democratic infrastructures for mobilizing to transform structures
- Decolonizing and Global South registers for transformative futures

SNEHABANDHANAM, INDIA

- Structural determinants of health disparities
- Housing
- Security
- Police violence
- Public harassment
- Stigma





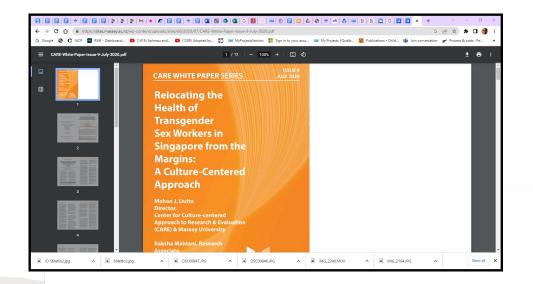


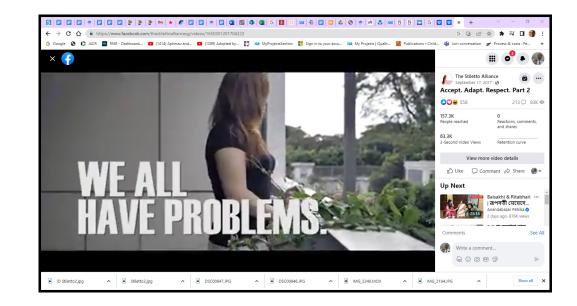
STILETTO ALLIANCE

- Drivers of poor health

 Public violence
 Private violence
 Absent housing
 Stigma
 Christo-fascism/authoritarianism
- Agency as challenging state/fascism
- Health as human right

DISRUPTING SPACES







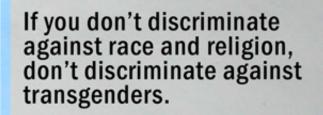
Research Consultant

Sandhza

Staff number: CNMV71



Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences National University of Singapore Blk AS4, #04-05 9 Arts Link S(117570) Tel: 6601 3093



WE ARE ALL

Stano.

TE WHANAU KOPERE

DRIVERS OF HEALTH AMONG INDIGENOUS TRANSGENDER WOMEN

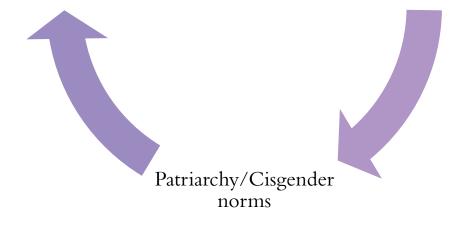
- Structural violence
- Institutionalized violence
- Structures that systematically exclude
 - Education
 - Employment
 - Healthcare
 - Housing
 - Police
- Structures of hate
 - White supremacy

DRIVERS OF ANTI-TRANSGENDER VIOLENCE



Whiteness

Colonialism



TE WHANAU KOPERE



NATIONAL LEVEL STRATEGY

- Addressing upstream structural drivers of violence
- Addressing colonial land theft
- Regulating anti-transgender health
- Re-connecting with Indigenous infrastructures that celebrate gender diversities
- Building safe housing infrastructures
- Building community infrastructures for co-creating solutions

Community-led culture-centered prevention of family violence and sexual violence

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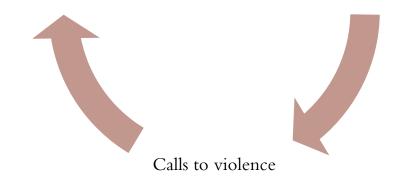
Mohan Dutta, Pooja Jayan, Christine Elers, Md Mahbubur Rahman, Francine Whittfield, Phoebe Elers, Selina Metuamate, Venessa Pokaia, De'Anne Jackson, Bronwyn Kerr, Shakila Hashim, Negin Nematollahi, Christina Teikmata-Tito, Jie Liu, Ihaia Raharuhi, Andee Zorn, Stephen Bray,

DISCURSIVE CLIMATE: ANTI-TRANSGENDER HATE



Actual acts of violence

Violent discourse/Platforms



Far-right white supremacists

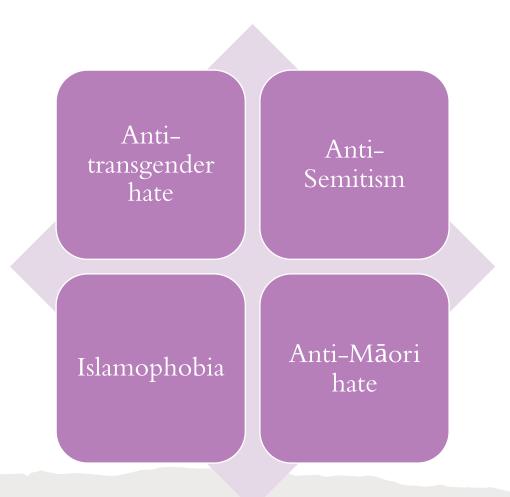
SOURCES OF ANTI-TRANSGENDER VIOLENCE

Trans-exclusionary radical feminists (TERFs)

Mainstream political parties

Mainstream economic actors

INTERSECTING VIOLENCE IN AOTEAROA





Liberal Western Culture Has Created a Frankenstein

By Guest Writer Olivia Pierson.

If there's a topic that bores me more than any other "t'

BiblioTech Ross

PETITION TO REMOVE A RACIST MINIS...

Done

BR

10:14 PM

Lorna

ESTABLISHMENT ON THE BACK FOOT...

https://youtu.be/kT262_vpzjl



YouTube

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Fox News - Kellie-Jay interviewed on Tucker Carlson Today This is the original #AdultHumanFemale channel and home of Kellie-Jay Keen aka Posie Parker. 4:04 ◄ Search



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K Back

Damien De Ment 4,348 subscribers

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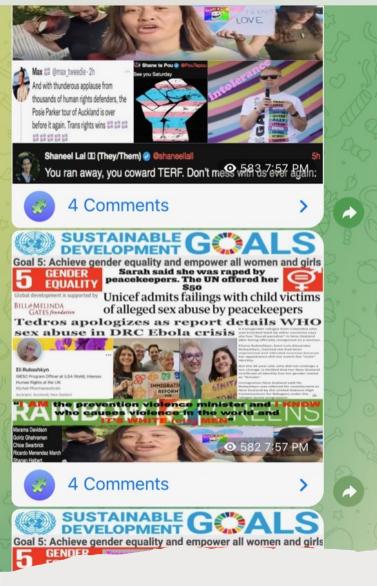


Want Free Speech In New Zealand? Better Cultivate Your Capacity For Violence

by Vince McLeod

When Posie Parker tried to speak at Albert Park on Saturday, and was attacked and silenced by a frenzied mob of far-left extremists, a dark

ECOSYSTEM OF ANTI-TRANSGENDER HATE



LOPMENT G AL

ider equality and empower all women a Sarah said she was raped by peacekeepers. The UN offered her \$50

Unicef admits failings with child v of alleged sex abuse by peacekeep ogizes as report details V DRC Ebola crisis



she has "found paradise" after being officially recog Eliana Rubashkyn, born Lu Rubashkyn, claimed she h imprisoned and ridiculed her appearance did not m identity.

But the 26-year-old, who o sex-change, is thrilled that certificate of identity has a as "female".

Immigration New Zealand Rubashkyn was referred fr New Zealand by the Unite Commissioner for Refuger refugee quota programme

ention violence minister and l ses violence in the world and T'S WHITE (cis) MEN" daily activities. For a beginner you can earn up to a thousand dollar daily. No stress at all. To get started. Just message me directly if you're interested to earn extra income for yourself.

Jan

Has anyone seen this..its actually really good: <u>https://youtu.be/PmKLaQGwJGI</u>



YouTube

Brendan O'Neil with an overseas perspective on the madness in our country

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ECOSYSTEM OF ANTI-TRANSGENDER HATE

THE DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE OF HATE

- Largely unregulated (free speech as hate speech/whiteness)
- Profitable commodity/Capitalist logic of virality
- Funded by powerful economic actors
- Mobilizes community and culture toward violence
- Has large-scale adverse effects on the health of targeted communities at the margins (Transgender women, Muslims, Indigenous communities, migrants)
- Erases the voices of communities at the margins
- Depletes democracy through the mobilization of hate
- Networked globally

CARE WHITE PAPER SERIES AUGUST 2021

A culture-centered approach to hate speech regulation

Mohan J. Dutta, Pooja Jayan, Md Mahbubur Rahman, Christine Elers, Francine Whittfield

Center for Culture-centered Approach to Research and Evaluation (CARE), Massey University

> CENTRE FOR CULTURE-CENTRED APPROACH TO RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

Congressional Briefing HATE SPEECH ON FACEBOOK INDIA: META SUPPRESSES FACT-FINDING REPORT

July 27, 2022 (Wednesday) 9 am PST / 10 am MST / 11 am CST / 12 noon EST / 9.30 pm IST



SOPHIE ZHANG Ex-Meta Employee turned-Whistleblower FRANCES HAUGEN Ex-Meta Employee turned-Whistleblower

CO-HOSTED BY: Genocide Watch, World Without Genocide, Indian American Musim Cocuncil, Hindus for Human Rights, International Christian Concern, Jubilee Campaign, 21Wilberforce, Dailt Solidarity Forum, New York State Council of Churches, Federation of Indian American Christian Organizations of North America, India Civil Watch International, Center for Pluralism, International Commission for Dalit Rights, American Muslim Institution, Students Against Hindutva Ideology, International Society for Peace and Justice, The Humanism Project and Association of Indian Muslims of America

Registration link: https://tinyurl.com/Briefing27July22



POLICY INTERVENTIONS

Addressing structural sources of violence directed at transgender women is critical.

Institutionalized hate within the police must be addressed.

Institutionalized hate within immigration must be addressed. Policies around immigration must be reviewed, anchored in Te Tiriti.

PUBLIC POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Institutionalized hate within politics must be addressed.

Funding sources of hate must be regulated.

Develop a framework for the regulation of digital hate/Christchurch Call

LESSONS FOR TRANSLATIONAL GLOBAL Health communication

- Cultural context is at the heart of translational practice
- Community agency is enacted in context, drawing on cultural values
- Cultural values are dynamic, continually in flux, and mobile across global spaces
- Hegemonic cultural values are structurally networked (colonialism/capitalism/patriarchy/cisnormativity)
- Structures are shaped by, reflect, and in turn reproduce hegemonic cultural values
- Structures produce marginalising effects that are felt as the loss of health
- Individuals, whanau, communities construct meanings of health, and reflect cultural values
- These meanings of health voiced at the margins offer transformative entry points for social change
- The scope of transformative social change is local/regional/national/global

TRANSFORMATIONS NECESSITATE WE Negotiate Bodily Risks

"You hired two part-time facilitators, namely Sharizal Bin Shianian and ______ whose backgrounds were activists in human rights rather than health communications."

"[In response to the name Sharizal Bin Shianian brought up at the interview, I could not recall the facilitator and stated that some of these hires were done by my Research Assistants working with community partners]. I have now checked with the research assistants and Sharizal goes by the name Sherry and was a community peer leader for the project with the health of transgender sex workers, that was reviewed and funded. As a peer leader, she ran the surveys and the culture-centered community-based intervention. Transgender sex workers are uniquely vulnerable to a range of health issues which cannot be addressed without dealing with culture (and including human rights issues as UNAIDS announced in 2016). It is not possible to address health issues among transgender sex workers without engaging the community and individuals active in organizing the community."

REFLECTIONS FOR TRANSLATIONAL HEALTH COMMUNICATION SCHOLARSHIP

- Journals are organized to center data/extraction
- Processes of organizing including community-led processes are historically erased in journals
- Knowledge held by/in communities organizing to change is systematically erased/Global South and Indigenous, Black, Migrant labour are largely erased
- Communities are treated as sources of data/not as owners of knowledge/data sovereignty/data justice
- The parochial definition of health often erases the very sites where struggles around health are being worked out
- Structural transformation is largely a footnote in journal articles/discussion section/future directions/ivory tower imaginings/ruminations
- <u>Structural transformations necessitate trans/gressions</u>
- Structural transformations necessitate we place our "bodies on the line" (Dutta et al., 2019)
- How do we build collective solidarities of care and safeguarding for academics/activists/communities embodying these risks?

QUESTIONS TO PONDER UPON

- How do we center translational health communication practice?
- What are the registers for re-doing metrics to recognize and reward translational health communication practice?
- What are the necessary practices that undo the labour inequalities that constitute academic knowledge generation?
- What are the necessary practices for centering the labour of care?
- What are the registers for decolonizing knowledge that disrupt data-centered extractive practices of knowledge generation?