



DIVISION OF
SOCIAL AND
BEHAVIOURAL
SCIENCES



DSBS 2019 - What have we been up to?

[DSBS FIELDNOTES](#)



Our [Fieldnotes](#) site which is a platform for promoting the role of critical social science research has been up and running since September 2018, with posts being released every 3 weeks. The authors range from our staff, PHD and MPH

students, to our broader network of researchers with whom we collaborate.

Check out one of these posts from the last few months:

- [Equipping Perinatally Infected HIV Positive Children for the Future: How Can We Support Paediatric HIV Disclosure in South Africa?](#) (Namhla Sicwebu)
- [Making U=U Work for Adolescents Living with HIV: Making Options, Choices, and Opportunities Available for All](#) (Dr Elona Toska & Zahra Abba Omar)
- [The iALARM Project: Working to Raise the Alarm about HIV among Men and Boys](#) (Nonzuo Mbokazi)
- [Digging the Hollows of Transdisciplinary Research: Reflections on the 2019 State of Dis-ease Workshop](#) (Beth Vale)
- [Supporting Critical Social Science Research on Gender and HIV in South Africa](#) (Assoc Prof Christopher Colvin & Dr Alison Swartz)
- [A Quest for Affordable Health Care: MCSJ and Partners March to Parliament to Demand a Rapid Implementation of Government's National Health Insurance Scheme](#) (Myrna van Pinxteren & Zara Trafford)

2nd Annual Gugulethu - DSBS, UCT Research Indaba



On this year's Mandela Day, 18 July 2019, members of NGOs, CBOs, local health facilities, and the Gugulethu community were invited to participate in sharing the spirit of ubuntu (togetherness) at the Second Annual Gugulethu-DSBS, UCT

Research Indaba. The event was hosted by iALARM, a research and community engagement project based at the UCT School of Public Health and Family Medicine's Division of Social and Behavioural Sciences.

The Indaba is a space to learn about and discuss new research on important public health issues in the Cape Town community of Gugulethu.

Have a read of the article [The iALARM Project: Working to Raise the Alarm about HIV among Men and Boys](#) on our Fieldnotes site

Our [iALARM](#) Site Launched in September



[iALARM](#) stands for 'Using Information to Align Services and Link and Retain Men in the HIV Cascade'. It began in 2015 and works to raise the alarm about the challenges men face in accessing HIV prevention, treatment and care. Men are less likely to get HIV testing, are sicker when they do seek care, and are more likely to drop out of ART. iALARM is a research project based in Gugulethu, Cape Town and surrounding communities that collates and synthesises information about HIV prevention, treatment and care and brings this information to community and health system members of the 'iALARM Task Team' to discuss what it means and how to respond.

iALARM is a collaboration between the Division of Social and Behavioural Sciences (DSBS, University of Cape Town), Brown University, Sonke Gender Justice, South African Medical Research Council (MRC), the University of California at San Francisco, and the Movement for Change and Social Justice (MCSJ).

FIC and NIMH Funding Grants Received for Training Postgraduate Students and Research in Gender and HIV



DSBS received significant funding to research gender and HIV (D43 TW011308) from the Fogarty International Center (FIC) and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) at the US National Institutes of Health (NIH). This grant will allow us to establish a 5-year social science training programme in two critical areas of contemporary gender and HIV research:

1. Reducing HIV incidence in adolescent girls and young women (AGYW), and
2. Improving the performance of men in HIV prevention, treatment and care services.

We are using the new Fogarty/NIMH funding to establish the Building Research in Interdisciplinary Gender and HIV through the Social Sciences (BRIDGES) Programme. BRIDGES will support interdisciplinary social science training and will contribute to the evidence base by conducting research toward:

1. Reducing HIV incidence in adolescent girls and young women, and
2. Improving the performance of men in the HIV cascade.

See our article [Supporting Critical Social Science Research on Gender and HIV in South Africa](#) on our Fieldnotes site.

Publications & Presentations

Books and Journal Articles

- Traumatic Storytelling and Memory in Post-Apartheid South Africa: Performing Signs of Injury, 1st Edition. Routledge. Christopher J Colvin, 2019
- Strategies for engaging men in HIV services. *Lancet HIV*, 6(3), e191-e200. [doi:10.1016/S2352-3018\(19\)30032-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-3018(19)30032-3). Colvin, CJ, 2019.
- Factors that influence parents' and informal caregivers' acceptance of routine childhood vaccination: a qualitative evidence synthesis. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*(2). [doi:10.1002/14651858.CD013265](https://doi.org/10.1002/14651858.CD013265). Cooper S, Schmidt B et al, 2019.
- A multidimensional approach to inform family planning needs, preferences and behaviours amongst women in South Africa through body mapping. *Reproductive Health*, 16(1), 159. [doi:10.1186/s12978-019-0830-6](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12978-019-0830-6). Harries J, Constant D et al, 2019.
- Barriers and facilitators to the implementation of doctor-nurse substitution strategies in primary care: a qualitative evidence synthesis. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*, 4, CD010412. [doi:10.1002/14651858.CD010412.pub2](https://doi.org/10.1002/14651858.CD010412.pub2). Karimi-Shahanjarini A, Shakibazadeh et al, 2019.
- Quantifying the HIV Treatment Cascade in a South African Health Sub-district by Gender: Retrospective Cohort Study. *Tropical Medicine & International Health*, n/a(n/a). [doi:10.1111/tmi.13334](https://doi.org/10.1111/tmi.13334). Lurie MN, Kirwa K et al, 2019.
- A systematic review of qualitative evidence on factors enabling and deterring uptake of HIV self-testing in Africa. *BMC Public Health*, 19(1), 1289. [doi:10.1186/s12889-019-7685-1](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-019-7685-1). Njau B, Covin CJ et al, 2019.
- Exploring Community Residents' Motivations for Interacting With American Field School Undergraduates in South Africa. *Journal of Experiential Education*, 42(2), 171-184. [doi:10.1177/1053825918821140](https://doi.org/10.1177/1053825918821140). Wainwright M, Sicwebu N et al, 2019.

Presentations

- Using 'formal' and 'informal' information in policy implementation: the case of Adolescent and Youth Friendly Health Services in Cape Town, South Africa. Myrna van Pinxteren, Sara Cooper & Christopher J. Colvin. Cochrane Conference March 2019.

- Bengtson A, Kipruto K, Colvin C, Lurie M. Estimating retention in HIV care: accounting for misclassification due to clinic switching. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Epidemiological Research, Minneapolis June 2019.
- Gittings, L. Engaging men as community health workers – a gender transformative approach? November 11th 2019. South African National HIV Think Tank, Men’s health services advisory group. Pretoria, South Africa. Invited presentation.
- Gittings, L., Mbula, S. And Kom., P. “If you are found taking medicine, you will be called names and considered less of a man.”: HIV-positive adolescent boys’ engagement with HIV treatment and care during and following ulwaluko (traditional initiation/circumcision) in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. SPHFM & MCSJ Research Day. Gugulethu, South Africa. July 17, 2019. Research day presentation.
- Gittings, L., Hodes, R. and Colvin, C. ‘I used to hate myself when I first knew, but there was a thing that whispered in my ears...’: Young HIV-positive masculinities throughout the life course. AIDS Impact Conference. London, United Kingdom. July 30th 2019. Conference Oral Presentation.
- Gittings, L., Mbula, S. And Kom., P. “If you are found taking medicine, you will be called names and considered less of a man.”: HIV-positive adolescent boys’ engagement with HIV treatment and care during and following ulwaluko (traditional initiation/circumcision) in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. South African AIDS Conference. Durban, South Africa. June 12, 2019. Conference Oral presentation.
- Gittings, L., Cromhout, P., Mbula, S. Barriers to medicines-taking and engagement in biomedical care for adolescent boys and young men living with HIV undertaking traditional initiation/circumcision in the Eastern Cape. February 5, 2019. Presentation to the Eastern Cape AIDS Council. East London, South Africa.

2019 PHD Students





Image of Bey-Marrie Schmidt

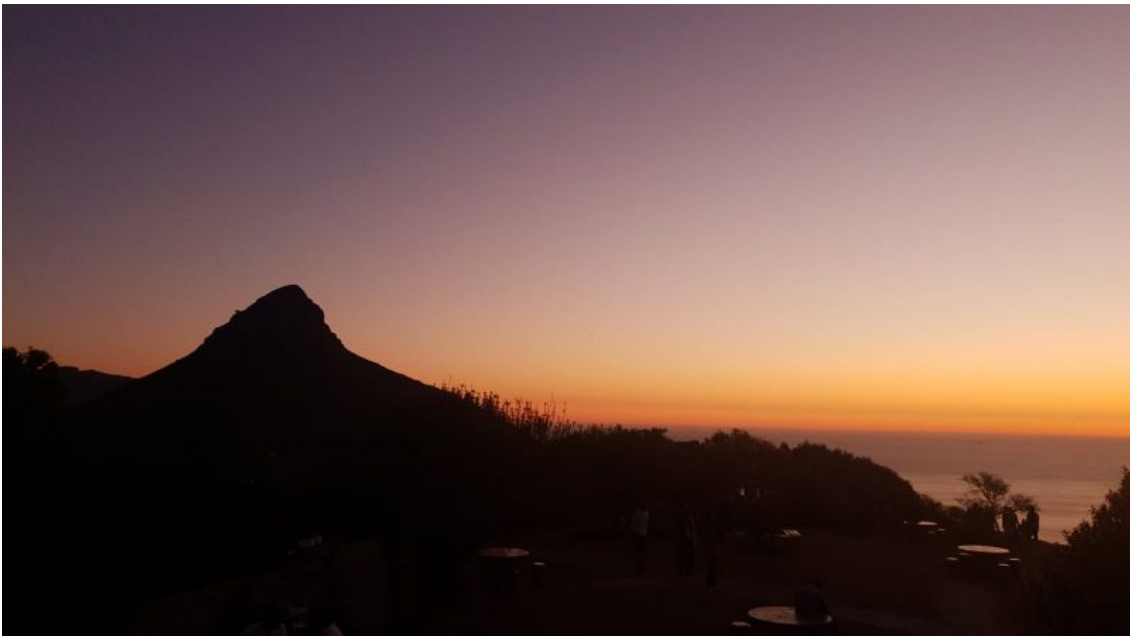
- Idriss Kallon (Finished)
- Bey-Marrie Schmidt (Finished)
- Lesley Gittings (Finished)
- Ingrid van der Heijden (Finished)
- Myrna van Pinxteren (Submitted)



MPH Graduates

- Samantha Malunga
- Yolanda Gomba
- Kirran De Leeuw
- Fransien Schoeman
- Phakani Mhazo
- Eugene Davids
- Caroline Deignan
- Shehani Perera

Wishing Everyone a Restful Festive Season. See You in 2020.



DSBS would like to thank everyone in our network for their continued support and collaboration. We wish everyone well over the festive season and trust that the time is used for some much needed rest.

Looking forward to 2020 and what the year will bring. Look out for our next newsletter coming out early next year!

Warm Wishes
The DSBS Team

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