

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN PUBLIC HEALTH: RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

3-5 November 2004

Venue: Copland Theatre, The University of Melbourne, Victoria Australia

Theme: Exploring human rights for the improvement of the health of mainstream and marginalised populations.

Details: Through a combination of debates, panel discussions and case studies, the symposium will provide the forum for the critical discussion of the growing use (and misuse) of human rights in public health discourse, research and practice. Implications of human rights to public health will be explored with sessions for the presentation of case studies of policies and programs in a global and regional context.

Invited panellists and discussants include international and national leaders in Public Health and International Human Rights Law.

Questions to be addressed will include:

1. Is the issue of human rights in health of growing global and regional importance?
2. How can human rights be incorporated in public health research and practice?
 - a. Exploring legislative and public health ethics frameworks
 - b. Individual rights in a population health context
 - c. Approaches for marginalised and mainstream populations
3. What is the value of human rights impact assessments in public health?

Expected outcomes

1. A review of the evidence on the value of human rights in public health research and practice.
2. Knowledge and skills transfer to participants to enable and encourage the development of public health policy with an impact on national and local level health goals and targets.
3. Development and formalising of appropriate national and international indicators for health and human rights monitoring and evaluation.
4. Development of a regional network in health and human rights.
5. Identification of the priority issues for research and policy development in health and human rights in Australia and the region.
6. Capacity building in the area of health and human rights in the region (International Centre for Health and Human Rights).

This Symposium has been structured to be highly participatory. Draft copies of presentations are available on CD Rom (in the symposium folder) and hard copies available on request from symposium administration. It would be useful if you could read through papers prior to the sessions. We would value your contribution to and active participation in discussions.

Note: the 7th World Congress of Bioethics is on in Sydney from 9-12 November
Details <http://www.bioethicsworldcongress.com/>

DETAILED PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2004

10.00 – 12.00

Closed meeting Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth)
15-31 Pelham St Carlton

2.00 – 2.30 Foyer, Copland Theatre

Registration

2.30 – 3.15 OPENING COPLAND THEATRE

Chair: Doreen Rosenthal (Director, Key Centre for Women's Health in Society)

- ✦ Welcome to country – Aunty Joy Wandin-Murphy (Indigenous Elder)
- ✦ Welcome James Angus (Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Melbourne)
- ✦ Opening speech - Michael Kirby (Justice, High Court of Australia)

3.15-4.30 HUMAN RIGHTS IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Chair: Anthony Zwi (Head, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of New South Wales, Sydney Australia)

- ✦ Why health and human rights? Graham Brown
- ✦ Linking health and human rights: what are the possibilities? - Di Otto
- ✦ Discussant – Elizabeth Reid

5.30 COCKTAILS AND ENTERTAINMENT - VENUE TBA

THURSDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2004

9-10.45 IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Chair : Sally Macintyre (Director, MRC Social and Public Health Sciences Unit, University of Glasgow)

- ✦ Integration of human rights in public health programming - Sofia Gruskin
- ✦ The right to preventative health - Rob Moodie
- ✦ Human rights and health impact assessment - Mary Mahoney
- ✦ Discussant – Pascale Allotey

11.15-13.00 Sub themes A

DISABILITY HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Lenore Manderson – Convenor; Clancy Kelly - Rapporteur
Panellists: Lee Ann Basser; Topong Kulkhanchit*; Devva Kasnitz

REPRODUCTIVE AND SEXUAL HEALTH IN WOMEN

Di Otto – Convenor; Andrea Whittaker – Rapporteur
Panellists: Jill Astbury, Sundari Ravindran*

INDIGENOUS HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Ian Anderson – Convenor; Gregory Phillips - Rapporteur
Panellists: Rosie Smith, Anna Beesley, Tom Calma

1.00-2.15 – LUNCH FOYER, COPLAND THEATRE

2.15-4.00 SUB THEMES B

HIV / AIDS STIGMATISATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Daniel Reidpath – Convenor; Helen Potts – Rapporteur

Panellists: Sofia Gruskin, Yang Yi*, Anand Grover* Elizabeth Reid

HUMANITARIAN CRISES, CONFLICT AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Steve Cordner – Convenor, Anthony Zwi – Rapporteur

Panellists: Fatima Alvarez-Castillo, Mike Toole, Peter Rosenblum

CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Kim Mulholland – Convenor; Susan Diamond – Rapporteur

Panellists: John Tobin, Susan Diamond, Kim Mulholland, Derrick Silove

4.30-5.30 CONVENORS AND RAPORTEURS MEETING

6.30 DINNER – VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED

Debate / panel discussion

NOVEMBER 5 2004

9-9.15 BRIEF OVERVIEW OF SUB THEMES

Daniel Reidpath

9.15 – 11.00 HEALTH, HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE CURRENT GLOBAL CONTEXT

Chair: Anthony Kessel (Director – Ethics and Human Rights Program, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)

- ✦ Displacement, health and human rights – Peter Rosenblum
- ✦ Women's health rights in a global context - TBA
- ✦ Indigenous health and human rights – Ian Anderson
- ✦ Discussant – Lenore Manderson

11.00 – 11.30 MORNING TEA

11.30-1.00 WHERE TO NEXT? REGIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING IN HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

PANEL DISCUSSION

Chair: Sofia Gruskin (Director, Center for International Health and Development, FXB Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health)

Panellists Jacqueline Siapno, Juvy Magbanua*, Anthony Kessel, Bebe Loff, Anthony Zwi

The symposium is a collaborative initiative between Pascale Allotey from the Key Centre for Women's Health in Society of the Department of Public Health at the University of Melbourne and Bebe Loff from the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at Monash University.

Ongoing updates, publications and contact details of participants available from www.rhhr.net

PRESENTERS, CONVENORS AND CHAIRS

Pascale Allotey is currently a Senior Research Fellow (VicHealth) at the Key Centre for Women's Health and a co-convenor of the symposium. She takes up a position as Professor of Race, Diversity and Professional Practice at the School of Health and Social Care at Brunel University in the UK at the end of the year.

Ian Anderson is Director of the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health and VicHealth Koori Health Research and Community Development Unit at the School of Population Health, University of Melbourne.

Jill Astbury is Professor of Psychology at the Victoria University of Technology. She previously held a position as acting Director of the Key Centre for Women's Health in Society and has pioneered work internationally on gender-based violence.

Lee Ann Basser is Associate Professor in Law at La Trobe University and Adjunct Professor at York University in Canada. Her areas of specialisation are child rights, disability rights, health law and family law.

Anna Beesley is a lawyer currently working at the Centre for Public Health Law at La Trobe University as a Legal Intern/ Research Officer.

Graham Brown is Professor of Medicine and Director of the University Department of Medicine at the University of Melbourne. He is currently a member of the Strategic Advisory Council for the Bill and Melinda Gates Children's Vaccine Programme.

Tom Calma is the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner with the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

Fatima Alvarez Castillo is Professor of Health Social Science at the University of the Philippines in Manila. Her areas of expertise include bioethics, political economy, human rights and health anthropology.

Stephen Cordner is Professor of Forensic Medicine and Director of the Institute of Forensic Medicine at Monash University.

Susan Diamond is Acting Director, Centre for Research Policy and Practice for Vulnerable Children and Families, Social Work and Social Policy, University of Western Australia.

Sofia Gruskin is the Director of the Program on International Health and Human Rights at the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights, and Associate Professor in Health and Human Rights in the Department of Population and International Health at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Devva Kasnitz is the Ed Roberts Fellow in Disability Studies and the Academic Coordinator at the Institute of Urban and Regional Development of the University of California, Berkley.

Clancy Kelly is a doctoral student in health and human rights at the University of Melbourne

Anthony Kessel is the Director of the International Programme for Ethics, Public Health and Human Rights at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Michael Kirby is a Justice of the High Court of Australia.

Bebe Loff is the Head of the Human Rights and Bioethics Unit of the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at Monash University.

Sally Macintyre is Professor and director of the Social and Public Health Sciences Unit at the University of Glasgow.

Juvy Magbanua* is a medical practitioner and human rights activist in Dili, East Timor and the Philippines.

Mary Mahoney is a senior lecturer at the School of Health and Social Development at Deakin University focusing on the application of Health Impact Assessment in policy development.

Lenore Manderson is Professor of Women's Health and a Federation Fellow in the area of health and disability at the Key Centre for Women's Health, University of Melbourne.

Rob Moodie is the Chief Executive Officer of VicHealth. He also has professorial appointments in public health at Melbourne and Monash Universities

Kim Mulholland is Professor and Director of the Centre for International Child Health at the University of Melbourne.

Di Otto is an Associate Professor of Law specialising in human rights, international law and criminal law.

Gregory Phillips is the project co-ordinator for the CDAMS Indigenous Health Curriculum Development Project at the VicHealth KHRCDU at the University of Melbourne.

Helen Potts is a lecturer at the Bioethics and Human Rights Unit of the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine of Monash University.

TK Sundari Ravindran* is honorary Professor of Health Science Studies, Achutha Menon Center for Health Science Studies, Sree Chitra Thirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum, India.

Elizabeth Reid is a Visiting Fellow at the Gender Relations Centre and the Department of Human Geography at the Australian National University. She is a consultant for humanitarian and Development Assistance and formerly resident coordinator of the UN and UNDP Resident Representative in Papua New Guinea.

Daniel Reidpath is currently a Senior Research Fellow (VicHealth) at the School of Health and Social Development, Deakin University and the recently appointed Professor in Public Health at the School of Health and Social Care at Brunel University in the UK. He takes up the new position in early 2005.

Peter Rosenblum is the holder of the newly created Lief, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein Clinical Professorship of Human Rights Law. Prof. Rosenblum was a human rights officer with the Geneva-based precursor to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, program director of the International Human Rights Law Group, and a researcher for both Human Rights Watch and the Lawyers' Committee for Human Rights.

Jacqueline Siapno is a lecturer in the Department of Political Science and the Melbourne Institute of Asian Languages at the University of Melbourne as well as the Vice Rector for Academic Program at UNDIL in East Timor.

Derrick Silove is Professor of Psychiatry at the University of New South Wales.

Di Sisely is the immediate past Chief Executive of the Equal Opportunity Commission of Victoria.

Rosie Smith is an Aboriginal lawyer, currently with the Victorian Department of Justice, Criminal Law Policy Section. Ms Smith oversees several of the initiatives under the Victorian Aboriginal Justice Agreement, including the Koori Court pilot project.

John Tobin is a Senior Fellow at the Faculty of Law at the University of Melbourne working in International Human Rights and the Rights of the Child.

Mike Toole is Professor and Head of the Centre for International Health at the Burnet Institute with special interests in the health of refugees and international humanitarian crises.

Andrea Whittaker is a joint Fellow of the Key Centre for Women's Health and the Melbourne Institute for Asian Languages at the University of Melbourne.

Yang Yi* is Professor of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine in Guandong, China.

Anthony Zwi is Professor and Head of the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at the University of New South Wales.

Information on Sponsors

* Confirmation of attendance is subject to funding