

The Conjugal Slavery in War SSHRC Partnership

Summer Institute on  
Men’s and Women’s Relations in Coercive Settings

Kolping Hotel  
Kampala, Uganda

Hosted by Refugee Law Project (RLP) in collaboration with  
York University and the University of British Columbia

May 15-19, 2017

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## The Conjugal Slavery in War SSHRC Partnership

### Introduction

Building on the RLP's South-South Institute's work with male survivors of sexual violence in Uganda (2013) and Cambodia (2015), this Summer Institute will focus on women's and men's experiences of forced relationships in wartime. The Institute strives to move beyond gendered victim-perpetrator terminology in the growing study and response to forced marriage or conjugal slavery, in order to capture the large variety of relationships that exist in coercive conflict settings. We hope that by bringing into consideration men's perspectives and experiences in relation to women's, new areas of research and policy may emerge that also help to bring into focus further dimensions of the other thematic approaches of the Conjugal Slavery in War (CSiW) Partnership: history, justice and children born of war.

### Questions to explore

1. What are some of the forms of relationship that present in coercive conflict settings (e.g. between opposite sexes, same-sex, sexual, social)? What systems lead to their formation and; how are they defined by those imposing them and living them?
2. Are all relationships entered into in coercive settings by definition coercive? Is the discussion about consent completely out of the picture?
3. Do relations forged in coercive conflict contexts carry over into a post-coercive environment? What experiences and what systems shape their continuation or dissolution?
4. Beyond the implications for legal practice and seeking compensation or reparations, what do such experiences suggest for processes of remaking community, including forging new relationships and communities of belonging, acts of refusal or forgiveness.
5. What are some of the post-conflict felt experiences, emotions, desires or hopes of mothers and fathers towards children born of coercive unions?; How are responsibility and belonging understood differently in paternal or maternal lines; by fathers and mothers; and by boy and girl children as they become adults?
6. What are some of the conceptual or theoretical tools at our disposal for thinking critically and in an engaged manner? What methodical approaches are possible and what ethical questions arise?

### Process

The first part of the Institute (May 15-16) will feature closed workshops with survivors, learning from lived experiences through exchange. A limited number of graduate students and partners will be invited to act as observers, documenters and facilitators – subject to agreement of the survivors.

The second part of the Institute (May 17-19) will feature open panels and break-out working groups, with a final panel that reaches out to community groups, policy makers, academics and practitioners to present our work in the preceding days, identifying new research areas and policy responses on the topic of men's and women's relations in coercive settings.

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### AGENDA

#### Part 1 – Closed Workshops (May 15-16)

**Sunday May 14th** – Arrival of international and national participants involved in closed workshops (CSiW graduate students and co-applicants)

**Monday May 15th** - Closed workshop, exchanges between male and female survivors  
*Building rapport, trust and relationships, identifying expectations and ground rules amongst survivors; 2 small working groups (one of women, one of men) with participants, facilitators and invited guests on the myths, fears and realities of forced marriage; what was your experience of forced marriage? immediately after you returned? what pressures did you face? what was your relationship to your child?*

**Tuesday May 16th** - Closed workshop, exchanges between male and female survivors  
*2 groups come together and exchange what they have learned within groups with each other and develop advocacy points to present on final day to policy makers, diplomats, community leaders, military and police; preparation for possible summary of this to be presented in public workshop by representations.*

*Develop advocacy points for presentation on final day*

\*\*\* We would envision these sessions would involve members of men's and women's groups, facilitation by RLP and with the presence of graduate students and key co-applicants who would observe and take notes to capture the exchanges.

\*\*\* Other participants involved the public panels and working groups arrive this day

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### Part 2 – Public Panels (May 17-19)

(Open to policy makers, donors, political leaders, academics and advocates and Working Groups)

Wednesday May 17<sup>th</sup>

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9:00 Official Opening

Welcome, About the Summer Institute, About CSiW, Objectives of the Institute

Dr. Chris Dolan, Director of RLP

Dr. Annie Bunting, Director of CSiW Partnership

Dr. Erin Baines, UBC

9:45 Break

10:00-12:00 Panel 1

Men, Women and Relationships in Coercive Settings: Complicating the assumptions

**Chair / Responder Kimberly Theidon**

1. **Mogi Wokorac**, (RLP) *Rapporteur on perspectives of relationships in forced marriage*
2. **Ketty Anyeko**, (PhD Candidate, ISGP, UBC) *Rapporteur from women's perspectives of relationships in forced marriage*
3. **Chris Dolan** (RLP) and **David Onen** (LSE) *Men's Perspectives on Forced Marriage*
4. **Sam Dubal**, (UC Berkeley and Harvard) - *Beyond Autonomy: Case Lessons from Some LRA Marriages*

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00-3:30 Panel 2

Children born of war, clan relations and negotiations

**Chair / Responder Heleen Touquet**

1. **Teddy Atim**, (Tufts) TBC
2. **Kimberly Theidon**, (Tufts)
3. **Godeliève Mukasarasi**, Rwanda
4. **Evelyn Amony** (WAN) and **Benard Okot** (RLP), Fathers and 'children born of war'

3:30 Break

3:45-5:00 Panel 3

Screening and Discussion of Video production and advocacy

Patrick - Rough cuts from "Bringing up my Enemy's Child"

Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup>

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9:00-11:00 Panel 4

Justice and reparations: legal and informal strategies of seeking reparation

**Chair / Responder Brandon Hamber**

1. **Susan Alupo** (RLP) and **Florence Epodoi** (FIDA) – Legal approaches to seeking reparation
2. **Zawadi Mambo**, legal accompaniment, SOFEPADI, DRC
3. **Annie Bunting** (Director CSiW) and **Heather Tasker** (PhD Candidate Socio-Legal Studies York)
4. **Grace Acan**, (WAN) – TBC - Informal approaches to reparation in northern Uganda

11:00-11:30 Break

11:30-1:00 Panel 5

Historical reflections on gender, sexuality, nationalism and forced marriage

**Chair / Responder Benedetta Rossi**

1. **Toni Smith**, (PhD candidate, DASA, University of Birmingham), *Colonial/Missionary Perspectives of Gender Roles and Marriage Practices in Congo and their Legacies*
2. **Joshua Walker**, (CSiW Postdoctoral Fellow, WITS South Africa)
3. **Bruno Véras**, (PhD Candidate, York University)
4. **Sarah Delius**, (PhD candidate, WISER, WITS South Africa) - *“Hands Free, Feet Free”:* *Marriage, Slavery and Colonial Policy in Sierra Leone 1880-1930*
5. **Eleanor Seymour**, (PhD candidate, DASA, University of Birmingham), *Undesirable Women: post-war reintegration and the stigma of ‘LRA marriages’*

1:00-2:00 Lunch

2:00-3:30 Panel 6

Theoretical and conceptual framings to studying men and women’s experiences in coercive settings

**Chair / Responder Chris Dolan and Annie Bunting**

1. **Erin Baines (& Omer Aijazi – TBC)** (UBC)
2. **Philipp Shultz** (Ulster)
3. **Brandon Hamber** (Ulster)
4. **Heleen Touquet** (University of Leuven)

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### 3:30-5:00 Break-out groups

Break out into separate working groups for deeper intellectual exchanges, presenting work in detail for feedback and development, setting new research agendas.

1. Video advocacy
2. Working with men and women's groups
3. Reflecting on the work with South Sudanese refugees – screening as an entry point

### Friday May 19<sup>th</sup>

#### Review, Debrief, Closing

**Morning** – Participants convene to review what we have learned, further develop recommendations for policy and research, and/or debrief policy makers and diplomats, and close the Institute. The morning session will begin with the CSiW Partners acting as rapporteurs from the breakout groups and reflecting on the previous week's themes and action points – Amelia Cooper, David Onen, Zawadi Mambo, Rosaline MCarthy, Godeliève Mukasarasi, and Umar Ahmad Umar.

**Afternoon** – Departure – either to return home or to commence field trips, e.g. to National Memory & Peace Documentation Centre in Kitgum.