



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN ON YOUTH RESEARCH

2/2021



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2021 is nearly over, and it has been an extremely challenging year for all of us. While we have been in the same turbulent sea of a global pandemic, we have sailed in different boats, with differing abilities to face the storm. Many have lost their lives, others livelihoods, and all have lost friends, family and taken for granted freedoms. But we have also gained: new ways of thinking about work and its future, the world and its inequalities, capitalism and its exploitations, and prospects for a more connected future.

I write this note on Sunday, the 26th December 2021, having just heard of the passing of Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu - Anglican Priest, Nobel Laureate, Conscience of the world, and a warrior for justice and inclusion his entire life. Among many wise words he has spoken, as one of The Elders globally and in South Africa, are these:

*“We are made for goodness. We are made for love. We are made for friendliness.
We are made for togetherness. We are made for all of the beautiful things that you and I know.
We are made to tell the world that there are no outsiders.
All are welcome: black, white, red, yellow, rich, poor, educated, not educated, male, female, gay, straight, all, all, all.
We all belong to this family, this human family, God's family.”*

The words speak most closely to my own work, and ours, as we struggle for inclusion for young people through our academic research. As a religious figure, he has frequently spoken of religion as a knife, that could be used to cut and share bread, or as a weapon to stab someone in the back. His stance has always been that religion offers liberation for many, and should motivate its followers to seek peace, forgiveness and justice.

During 2021, it gives me great pleasure to announce that the collaborative effort began as I assumed my Presidency of RC34 in 2018, The Oxford Handbook of Global South Youth Studies, was finally completed and published. There are more details later in this newsletter of the book and an exciting global webinar series, to be held in partnership with our RC, over the coming 18 months. The online version is available [here](#) but will need access through your institution. Thank you all for your immense support in reviewing, submitting abstracts for consideration and for general forms of encouragement along the way. It has started a real community of practice that includes Youth scholars from the Global South and North, and improved all our work. It would not have been possible without the partnership of RC34 and its members. Thank you!

IBYR

*IBYR is the official newsletter
of the RC34 “Sociology of
youth” of the International
Sociological Association*

Earlier in December I attended an ISA Executive Meeting which included all Presidents of Research Committees, to discuss a number of important matters. Amongst these was membership, the pending retirement of our extraordinary association secretary Dr Izabela Barlinska who has held the activities of ISA together for the past 20 years, thoughts about a “greener” ISA especially in light of how the world has changed with regard to travel and in person meetings, discussion about social media communication and websites for RCs, engagement with UN organisations and how best to spend the substantial endowment that ISA has accumulated over the past years. As these conversations culminate in specific actions, I will share more with you.

For now it is interesting to note that there are currently 5,781 ISA members (down from 6,360 in 2018) with 70% of members from Category A countries, 17% from Category B countries, and 14% from Category C. While the declining membership has emanated from Category A countries, there has been a 1% increase in members from Category B and C countries. While this needs to grow even further, it is a great reflection of ISA’s commitment to inclusivity. As we plan for an in-person Congress in Melbourne (now to be held in 2023, pandemic permitting) this commitment to inclusivity needs to be made concrete with plans for ensuring travel funds, visas and wide visibility of members from B and C countries across all aspects of the programme. We will hear shortly about timelines and calls for sessions and papers.

Wishing you all a fulfilling and joyful new Year as we work for a better world for young people.

Warm regards

Sharlene

Sharlene Swartz

RC 34 President (2018-2023)

GLOBAL SOUTH YOUTH STUDIES

PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION, NETWORKING

Ninety percent of the world's youth live in Africa, Latin America and the developing countries of Asia. Despite this, the field of Youth Studies, is dominated by texts that universalise the experiences of youth despite having been researched and written in Northern contexts. **The Oxford Handbook of Global South Youth Studies** addresses this geo-political inequality by showcasing the work of Southern scholars and begins to remake Youth Studies by offering Southern perspectives with global resonance. Please join us for a seminar series to broaden and deepen Southern scholarship about, with and for young people, and to grow a community of practice begun through the publication of this handbook.

In these seminars, held quarterly, the main themes of the handbook: what the editors have called 'epistepaxis' – the importance of formulating knowledge-based practices based on Southern experiences of life and politics; thinking through theory, method and representation in doing so; reimagining and learning about concepts such as personhood, intersectionality, violences, de- and post-coloniality, consciousness, precarity, modernities, ontological insecurity, navigational capacities, collective agency and emancipation from Southern contexts; and expanding or re-theorising these concepts for Southern, Northern and Global contexts.

Contributors to the handbook and seminars are from various regions of the Global South, including from the Diaspora, Indigenous and Aboriginal communities, and comprise senior and emerging scholars, writing with others from the South, and sometimes with Northern scholars, in an intentional community of practice.

An ebook of abstracts is available along with details of where the book may be obtained.

SAVE THE DATES
SOUTHERN YOUTH STUDIES
AND EPISTEPRAXIS
Wednesday 2nd March 2022

THEORY, METHOD AND
REPRESENTATION
Wednesday 11th May 2022

PERSONHOOD, RACE AND
INTERSECTIONALITY
Wednesday 17th August 2022

NAVIGATING PRECARITY
Wednesday 16th November 2022

VIOLENCES AND COLLECTIVE
AGENCY
Wednesday 15th February 2023

Download the Invitation here:

<http://www.rc34youth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Global-South-Youth-Webinar-Invite-Save-the-Dates.pdf>

SEMINAR 1 SOUTHERN YOUTH STUDIES AND EPISTEMEPRAXIS

Wednesday 2nd March 2022 [TIME: 11:00-13:30 UTC]

Chair: Dr Terri-Ann Gilbert Roberts

Discussants: Prof Dan Woodman, Prof Tracy Shildrick

Speakers:

1. A Global Youth Studies to benefit the world: Realigning theory, practice and justice – *Prof Sharlene Swartz*
2. Youth in the Global South: Why their experiences matter – *Dr Adam Cooper*
3. Youth studies, its forms and differences amongst the South – *Prof Ana Miranda*
4. Youth studies, its forms and differences between the North and South – *Prof Clarence Batan*

SEMINAR 2: THEORY | METHOD | REPRESENTATION

Wednesday 11th May 2022 [TIME: 11:00-13:30 UTC]

Chair: Prof Nidhi Singal

Discussants: Dr Ani Wierenga; Prof Geoffrey Pleyers

Speakers:

1. Southern theory and how it aids in engaging Southern youth - *Anye Nyamnjoh*
2. Youth life-writing in a postcolonial world - *Titas De Sarkar*
3. Representations of young people and neoliberal developmentalism in the Global South – *Prof Judith Bessant*
4. Researching the South and Social Network Interviewing – *Dr Alude Mahali and Jessica Breakey*

SEMINAR 3 PERSONHOOD AND INTERSECTIONALITY

Wednesday 17th August 2022 [TIME: 12:00-14:30 UTC]

Chair: Prof Crain Soudien

Discussants: Prof Arathi Sriprakash, Prof Jean Comaroff

Speakers:

1. Intersectionality, Black youth and political activism – *Prof Patricia Hill Collins*
2. An intersectional approach to the mobility trap that plagues migrant youth in China – *Dr Xiaorong Gu*
3. From Black Consciousness to Consciousness Of Blackness – *Prof Xolela Mangcu*
4. Home, belonging and Africinity in the film *Black Panther* – *Ms Ragi Bashonga*

SEMINAR 4 NAVIGATING PRECARIETY

Wednesday 16th November 2022 [TIME: 12:00-14:30 UTC]

Chair: Dr Adam Cooper

Discussants: Prof Michele Fine, Dr Joshua Kalemba

Speakers:

1. Youth employment, informality and precarity in the Global South – *Prof Shailaja Fennell*
2. Precarity, fixers and new imaginative subjectivities of youth in urban Cameroon – *Dr Divine Fuh*
3. A South East Asian perspective on the role for the sociology of generations in building a global youth studies – *Prof Dan Woodman and Dr Oki Rahadianto Sutopo*
4. Navigational capacities for Southern youth in adverse contexts – *Prof Sharlene Swartz*

SEMINAR 5 VIOLENCES AND COLLECTIVE AGENCY

Wednesday 15th Feb 2023 [TIME: 11:00-13:30 UTC]

Chair: Prof Howard Williamson

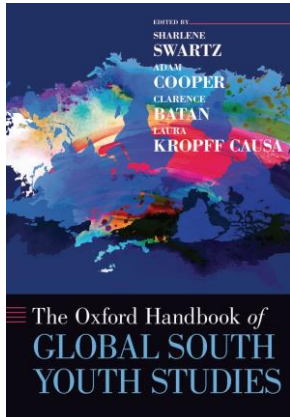
Discussants: Dr Ilaria Pitti, Prof Alan France

Speakers:

1. Necropolitics and young Mapuche activists as a public menace in Argentina – *Dr Laura Kroppff Causa*
2. Youth protagonism in urban India - *Ms Roshni Nuggeshalli*
3. Unearthing historical violence in the lives of *istambays* using Rizal's theory of colonial Philippines - *Dr Clarence Batan*
4. Venezuelan youth and the routinization of conflict – *Prof Ines Rojas*

GLOBAL SOUTH YOUTH STUDIES

PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION, NETWORKING



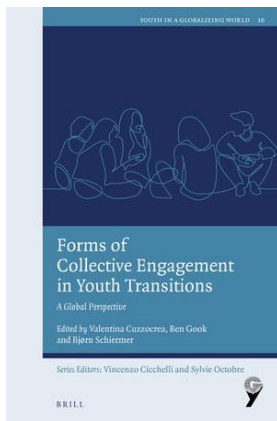
THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF GLOBAL SOUTH YOUTH STUDIES

Sharlene Swartz, Adam Cooper, Clarence Batan, and Laura Kropff Causa
Oxford University Press, 2021 - ISBN: 9780190930028

*Ninety percent of the world's youth live in Africa, Latin America and the developing countries of Asia. Despite this, the field of Youth Studies, like many others, is dominated by the knowledge economy of the Global North. To address these geopolitical inequalities of knowledge, *The Oxford Handbook of Global South Youth Studies* offers a contribution from Southern scholars to remake Youth Studies from its current state, that universalizes Northern perspectives, into a truly Global Youth Studies. Contributors from across the Global South—including from Diaspora, Indigenous and Aboriginal communities—locate and define 'the Global South'; articulate the necessity of studying Southern lives to enrich, reinterpret, legitimate, and offer symmetry to youth studies; and use Southern theory to do so. Eleven concepts—personhood, intersectionality, violences, de- and postcoloniality, consciousness, precarity, fluid modernities, ontological insecurity, navigational capacities, collective agency, and emancipation—are reimagined and 're-presented.' The outcome is a series of everyday practices such as hustling, navigating, fixing, waiting, being on standby, silence, and life-writing that demonstrate how youth living in adversity experiment with and push back against routine and conformity, and how research may support them in these endeavors and, simultaneously, redefine the relationships between knowledge, practice, and politics – what the editors term epistep Praxis. The handbook concludes with a nascent charter for a Global Youth Studies of benefit to the world, which no longer excludes, assumes, or elides but embraces new possibilities for representing youth, researching among them, and devising policies and interventions to better serve them.*

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190930028.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780190930028>



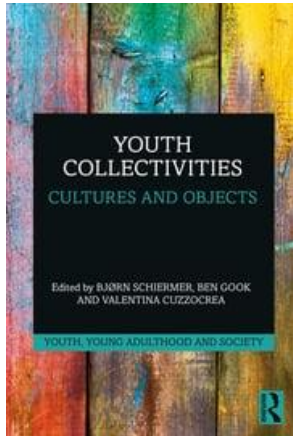
FORMS OF COLLECTIVE ENGAGEMENT IN YOUTH TRANSITIONS. A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Valentina Cuzzocrea, Ben Gook, and Bjørn Schiermer
Brill, 2021 - ISBN: 978-90-04-46634-0

This collection sheds light on diverse forms of collective engagement among young people. Recent developments in youth studies, and the changing global shape of socio-economic conditions for young people, demand new approaches and ideas. Contributors focus on novel processes, practices and routines within youth collectivity in various contexts across the globe, including Indonesia, Spain, Italy, Norway and Poland. The chapters pay particular attention to transitional phases in the lives of young people. Conceptually, the book also explores the strengths and limitations of a focus on collectivity in youth studies. Ultimately, the book makes the case for a focus on forms of collectivity and engagement to help scholars think through contemporary experiences of shared social life among young people.

For more information, please visit:

<https://brill.com/view/title/54739>



YOUTH COLLECTIVITIES. CULTURES AND OBJECTS

Edited By Bjørn Schiermer, Ben Gook, Valentina Cuzzocrea

Routledge, 2022 - ISBN: 9780367404031

This volume seeks to address what its contributors take to be an important lacuna in youth cultural research: a lack of interest in the phenomenon of collectivity and collective aspects of youth culture.

It gathers scholars from diverse research backgrounds – ranging from contemporary subculture studies, fan culture studies, musicology, youth transitions studies, criminology, technology and work-life studies – who all address collective phenomena in young lives. Ranging thematically from music experience and festival participation, via soccer fan culture, leisure, street art, youth climate activism, to the design of EU youth policies and Australian government ‘project’ work with young migrants, the chapters develop a variety of approaches to collective aspects to young cultural practices and material cultures. To establish these new approaches, the contributors combine new theories and fresh empirical work; they critically engage with the tradition and they complement or even reconfigure traditional approaches in and around the field.

More info:

<https://www.routledge.com/Youth-Collectivities-Cultures-and-Objects/Schiermer-Gook-Cuzzocrea/p/book/9780367404031>

CALL FOR CHAPTER PROPOSALS/ABSTRACTS

ELGAR COMPANION TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Edited by Peter Kelly, Seth Brown, James Goring, Meave Noonan and Scott Phillips

The purpose of this Companion is to provide not only a broad overview of research in relation to young people in the current context of planetary crisis but also a space for critical, innovative, imaginative, diverse and inclusive examinations of complex and often under-explored issues in relation to young people and sustainable futures. With this in mind, we are looking for contributions that engage with the following issues and themes that add complexity, detail and insight into the challenges and opportunities for young people and sustainable futures under the influence of the SDGs.

We are seeking 300-350 words proposals/abstracts for chapters in this Companion.

Abstracts should be submitted by May 30, 2022.

Accepted abstracts will be notified by the end of July 2022.

First drafts of chapters will be due on or before March 30, 2023.

Final drafts of chapters will be due on or before July 30, 2023.

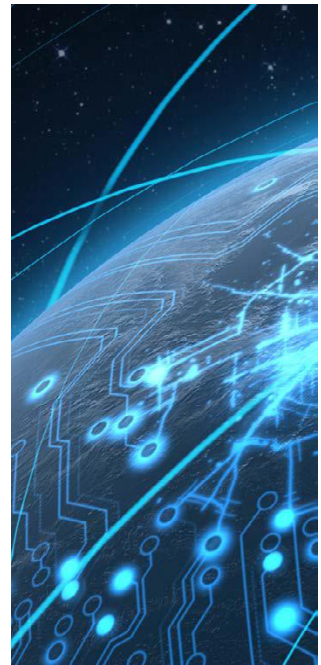
The Companion will be published in 2024.

Final chapters will be 6000 words in length, including references.

The Companion will comprise approximately 35 chapters

Microsoft Word versions of chapter abstracts should be emailed to the editorial team at: young.people.sustainable.futures@gmail.com

To find out more: <http://www.rc34youth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Young-People-and-the-SDGs-Call-for-Chapters-1.pdf>



Howard Williamson
(Organisational Secretary)



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2021-2022 is a strange time in my life, for it captures quite a number of different anniversaries. Not least is the fact that I am approaching the 20-year mark as your Organisational Secretary. I probably should not have served more than two terms, but I relish the role and successive Presidents have invited me to keep going.

It's also 50 years since I went to university and 40 years since I received my PhD. And threading through all that time has been my relationship with, and study of the 'Milltown Boys'. It all started quite by accident, when I moved to the area they lived and bumped into a few of them. But they became a focal point, in different ways and through the application of different methodologies, for what some consider to be a unique 'longitudinal ethnography'. My first book about the Boys was published in 1981 and my third earlier this year (2021). *The Milltown Boys at Sixty* is a reflective mix of autobiography, history and ethnography. It probably could not have been written without my unusual personal and occupational background.

I had already done some voluntary youth work when I met the Boys, so I was used to engaging with 'difficult youth'. I continued as a substantial part-time youth worker, alongside contract research on numerous youth issues, right through to the early 2000s, when I eventually became a full-time academic. Throughout that time, I had also played a steadily increasing role in youth policy development at many levels of governance. That policy work spanned the domains of, inter alia, formal and non-formal education, vocational training and youth employment, substance misuse and criminal justice. It was focused primarily on a social inclusion and 'opportunity-focused' youth policy agenda.

I'm often asked what the big 'takeaways' are from my somewhat distinctive experience in youth research, youth policy and youth work practice. It's a surprisingly easy question to answer. The answer is threefold. First, positive experiences and opportunities made available through public policy must extend deeper and longer into the lives of those young people who need it and will benefit from it most; too often, they only reach those young people who are already doing reasonably well. Second, negative – regulatory and restrictive - interventions into young people's lives must be very carefully limited only to those who really require them; too often, once in use, they are applied to far too many young people. And thirdly, not enough can be said about the importance of 'mentoring' by those sometimes described as 'trusted adults' or 'personal advisers': our most damaged and disadvantaged young people desperately need to have somebody they can trust solidly and wholehearted on their side.

Maurizio Merico
(IBYR Editor)



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I have been involved in youth research since the beginning of my academic career. At the beginning my interest was mainly focused on the theoretical approaches to youth studies. In recent years, I have moved my attention mainly toward issues relating to young people's education, paying specific attention to non-formal education and youth work, which are among the main focuses of my current teaching and research activities as Associate professor at the University of Salerno, in Italy.

However, my interest in the "classics" of youth studies continues to underline my research activities: after having translated into Italian and introduced papers by Talcott Parsons, Frederic M. Thrasher and Paul G. Cressey on youth, recently I have published a new translation of Karl Mannheim's classic essay on generations.

I have participated in several research studies and projects at local, national and European level, which has allowed me to broaden my interests and to explore issues such as the representations of youth, youth participation and citizenship, youth policies, the transition to adulthood, young people's values, future orientations, consumption and leisure.

After having been, for two years, a member of the *Pool of European Youth Researchers* (PEYR), a group of researchers and experts supporting the functioning of the European Union-Council of Europe Youth Partnership, I currently coordinate the group of researchers in charge of elaborating the Italian section of the *Youth Wiki*, the online platform presenting information on European countries' youth policies.

I have been the Editor in Chief of the ISA-RC34 "*International Bulletin on Youth Research*" (IBYR) since 2014. This experience is now coming to an end: they have been very intense, challenging and rich years, that offered me the chance to keep in contact with so many colleagues around the world, thus defining a new and larger personal geography of youth studies. I did, and I will do until Melbourne, my best to offer my competences and enthusiasm to the community of youth researchers around the world: I do hope that ISA-RC34 members (and friends) have appreciated my contribution.



INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGY ASSOCIATION (ISA)
RC34 SOCIOLOGY OF YOUTH



OBJECTIVES

The aim of RC34 is to contribute to the development of theory and practice of youth sociology and youth research on an international level, uniting professional knowledge, scientific consciousness, and social commitment of its members to work on problems and issues of youth on a local, regional, and international level.

www.rc34youth.org

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and/or get involved in ISA RC34?!*
We'd like you to!

You can become a member of ISA RC34
Membership Dues: US\$50 (discount US\$10) for a 4-year period.
ISA membership registration form is available on
<https://isa.enoah.com/Registration>
Contact a board member - we'd be happy to hear from you!

Read all about ISA RC34 on its website:
<http://www.rc34youth.org/>

Keep up to date with the ISA RC34 Newsletter:
<http://www.rc34youth.org/newsletter>

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<https://twitter.com/rc34youth>

ABOUT US

History

The ISA was founded 1948 in close cooperation with UNESCO's Research Department. As peace education and youth #s were in the forefront of the postwar, socio-political legacy of this foundation, many of the first officers of ISA were also youth sociologists. But in 1975 the RC34 was established as a specialized branch of ISA.

The RC34 was from the beginning not only a network for pure academic youth research, but also committed to the original heritage of social and political responsibility. This implies standing partnership with multilateral organisations aiming at conflict resolution, peace and the development of civic society. It is also the policy of RC 34 to invite for membership and participation colleagues from other disciplines as well as practitioners in the youth fields, and then to serve as a global, interdisciplinary network and meeting place for youth #s in general.

Structure

The Committee is built on associational principles of individual membership, formal statutes, a General Meeting every fourth year at the World Congresses, also electing a Board running the RC between the Congresses.

The work is built on regional Vice-Presidencies running their activities and networking in various areas of the world, and a Bureau taking care of the membership services and general, strategic affairs connected to the Presidency. An Advisory Board is appointed by the Board, as a body for special experiences and strategic competence in the field.

Objectives

The aim of RC34 is to contribute to the development of theory and practice of youth sociology and youth research on an international level, uniting professional knowledge, scientific consciousness, and social commitment of its members to work on problems and #s of youth on a local, regional, and international level.

- [International Sociological Association \(ISA\) - RC34](#)
- [Join ISA/RC34 or renewal your membership online](#)



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RC 34 “Sociology of Youth”
International Sociological Association

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