



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN ON YOUTH RESEARCH (IBYR)

issue 2/2017

EDITORIAL



Ani Wierenga

ABOUT

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

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Dear Colleagues,

From a hot and stormy Melbourne, warmest greetings to you all, whether you are expecting snow, dry seasons or the tropics.

In this issue of IBYR we turn special attention to the 2018 ISA World Congress, with an updated program and an interview with Jim Côté, our host, about how to make the most of a visit to Toronto.

2017 has been a year of preparation for this event, at many levels. 400+ colleagues submitted abstracts to RC34 sessions for the World Congress. Our program has (as always) been confronting RC34 with the dilemmas of incorporating so much good content in so little time, and that has been (and continues to be) a real team effort.

This abundance of good content gave a particular set of challenges to our 40 Session Organisers, who have organised 26 hosted and joint Sessions. To our Session Organisers, thank you for opening up such high quality and diverse set of spaces for conversations about youth research, and for your flexibility to bend with the program’s needs. Of particular note is the way you have given particular care to creating sessions that feature authors from around the globe.

As the year ends I would particularly like to thank the Program Committee, Howard Williamson, Sharlene Swartz and Clarence Batan, who have worked extremely hard behind the scenes and together found new ways to incorporate 378 abstracts into an exciting RC34 program.

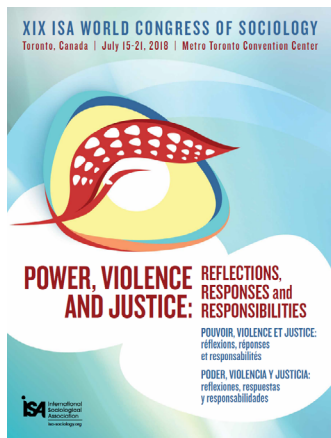
My appreciation goes to the IBYR Team, led by Maurizio Merico,

who continue to carry so graciously all the news of this community. Of course the real, ongoing work of RC34 happens where you are, and in the youth studies that is driven daily by our whole RC34 community around the globe. To all our colleagues in youth research thank you for the work that you do. Conditions might be challenging, but Youth Studies at a global level looks vibrant. Peace and joy to you this season, and a safe and welcoming start to 2018.

Ani



EVENTS



FEATURE STORY: LET'S GO TO TORONTO

James (Jim) Côté is our Past President 2010-14, and he has kindly agreed to be our RC34 Host in Toronto. IBYR asked Jim about what we can expect when we land in Toronto.

'I think colleagues will enjoy the city experience.

Toronto is a multicultural city, with 80 languages spoken. You will have the opportunity to explore the different ethnic areas around the city, and in terms of food, you can get everything. The Convention Centre, where the World Congress will be held, is in the heart of the theatre district, and so there will be opportunities to go to see a play. (Check Google Maps). It is also beside the Baseball Stadium. The Toronto Blue Jays, Toronto's home team, will have home games on July 20-22 with the Baltimore Cardinals, so if you are interested be sure to book tickets ahead of time. (Sorry, hockey is out of season in July.) The Convention Centre is also beside the CN Tower. From the top of the tower you can see the whole city and Lake Ontario, as for as New York State on a clear day.

The central train station (Union Station) is just down the street from the Convention Centre. Union Station is directly linked to Pearson Airport, where most of you will be landing. Connecting trains are every 15 minutes. You can also access the subway network from there. The more expensive hotels are in this area, so if you want a less expensive one, get one close to a subway station.

The Canadian dollar is low compared to other currencies like the US dollar and Euro, meaning that things are relatively inexpensive. You may be surprised how cheap the beer is!

We have two seasons in Canada: winter and July. Therefore, there is a good chance of good weather for the Congress. In July it is likely to be sunny and 75-85 degrees Fahrenheit or in the 20s Celsius during the day. It is usually cooler in the evening so it is best to carry a light jacket.

While in Toronto, do allow time for a day trip. Niagara Falls is a viable trip, just two hours each way by chartered bus. I'm sure the ISA will provide this information and it is readily available otherwise when you get there.

There are a number of bars near the Convention Centre and I have been looking at where we could all meet after hours. In terms of a Go-To bar for RC34, I think we might start at the Loose Moose.'



EVENTS

XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology
Power, Violence and Justice: Reflections, Responses and Responsibilities
15-21 July 2018, Toronto (Canada)

RC34 Sociology of Youth

Program Coordinators:

Ani WIERENGA, University of Melbourne, Australia, wierenga@unimelb.edu.au

Howard WILLIAMSON, University of South Wales, United Kingdom, howard.williamson@southwales.ac.uk

Clarence BATAN, University of Santo Tomas, Philippines, cmbatan@ust.edu.ph

Sharlene SWARTZ, University of Cape Town, South Africa, sswartz@hsrc.ac.za

Sessions:

[Amplifying Silenced Voices and Revealing Invisible Populations: Methodological Challenges](#)

[Brics Sociology of Youth: Theoretical and Practical Contributions to Understanding](#)

[Critical Perspectives on Youth Wellbeing](#)

[Forms of Collectivity Among Contemporary Youth: Subcultures and Beyond](#)

[Forms of Collectivity Among Contemporary Youth: Transitions and Beyond](#)

[Global Youth in the Move: Alteractivism and Post-2011 Social Movements](#)

[Grand Narratives of Sociology and Precarity](#)

[Key Thinkers in Youth Sociology: Reflections on Andy Furlong's Legacy](#)

[Longitudinal Views on Youth Transitions. Reflections on the Social Construction of Youth: Power, Justice, Social Reproduction and Violence.](#)

Migration, Mobilities and Borders

Power, Violence and Justice in the Labor World: The Youth at the Front Scene. Joint Session I/II

Presidential Session

RC34 Business Meeting

Social Movements and Youth Culture

Social Movements, Youth Participation and New Transnational Forms of Citizenship

Sociology of Youth in North America

Violences: Global Youth Encounters with Physical, Symbolic and Structural Violence

Young People and New Political Creativity in the Digital Age

Youth Belonging and Citizenship in 'Globalised Ethnoscapes'

Youth Work-Ing for Better Futures

Youth and Nationalism in a Globalized World

Youth and Violence: New Theoretical Interpretations

Youth in a Globalizing World

Youth in the Global South: Divergences, Absences, Universalities

Youth in the Labour Market: Navigating Gender and Race Stratification

Youth on the Move: Alter-Activism & Post-2011 Movements

Youth, Gender and Belonging



BOOKS



WHAT POLITICS? YOUTH AND POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT IN AFRICA

Elina Oinas, Henri Onodera, and Leena Suurpää (Eds.)

Brill, 2017 - ISBN13: 9789004322448; E-ISBN: 9789004356368

What Politics? Youth and Political Engagement in Africa examines the diverse experiences of being young in today's Africa. It offers new perspectives to the roles and positions young people take to change their life conditions both within and beyond the formal political structures and institutions. The contributors represent several social science disciplines, and provide well-grounded qualitative analyses of young people's everyday engagements by critically exa-

mining dominant discourses of youth, politics and ideology.

Despite focusing on Africa, the book is a collective effort to better understand what it is like to be young today, and what the making of tomorrow's yesterday means for them in personal and political terms.

[Read more](#)

JEUNES ET CULTURES: DIALOGUE FRANCO-QUÉBÉCOIS

S. Octobre, C. Dallaire (Eds.)

Presses de l'Université Laval (PUL), 2017 – ISBN : 978-2-7637-3591-7 (print); ISBN : 9782763735924 (electronic)

English language abstract: Youth cultures evoke many images on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean: connected, globalized generations that neglect classic culture... This book examines the changes in youth cultures in France and in Quebec through a dialogue among researchers from different generations that draw on different intellectual traditions to present their recent studies. What are the transformations at play and what conceptual models do we need to account for their various dimensions?

What are the similarities and differences among the different possible approaches? This dialogue restores the strong dynamic that characterizes the meeting of youth(s) and culture(s) and traces prospective avenues to be explored.

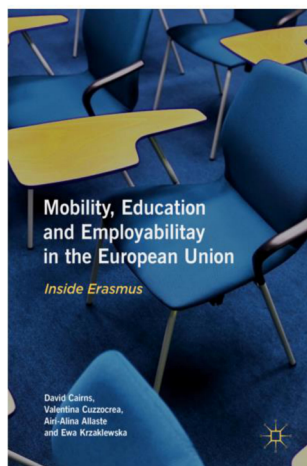
The book is in French.

[Read more](#)





BOOKS



MOBILITY, EDUCATION AND EMPLOYABILITY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION: INSIDE ERASMUS

David Cairns, Ewa Krzaklewska, Valentina Cuzzocrea, Airi-Alina Allaste

Palgrave MacMillan, in press (2018)

This book takes a detailed look at the most high profile framework for formal and non-formal educational exchanges in European Union: the Erasmus programme. In the course of our discussion, we explain how different forms of mobility are being practiced within the European youth population, including students and project participants, explaining what this mobility means for the EU and the extent to which the current Erasmus+ iteration of the programme meets the needs of young Europeans, many of whom facing challenging socio-economic and political conditions.

In doing so, we take what is essentially an inside view on Erasmus, examining the work of key stakeholders within Erasmus participating institutions and looking at recent attempts to establish quality within various aspects of the programme, including recognition of the core issues of employability and interculturality.

JOURNAL ISSUES



YOUTH

Christoph H. Schwarz & Anika Oettler

Middle East - Topics & Arguments, vol. 9/2017

The uprisings of 2011 challenged many predominant concepts of 'youth' in the Middle East and North Africa. The peer reviewed, open access journal META (Middle East – Topics & Arguments) dedicates its current thematic issue to youth research in the region, and critically engages with the respective theoretical and methodological discussions.

[Read the issue online](#)



CONFERENCES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON 'SOCIAL POLICY IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD' 12-13 May 2018, Tehran (Iran)



Allameh Tabataba'i University (the largest public university specialized in humanities and social sciences in Iran) will hold the first **international conference on 'Social Policy in the Islamic World'** (<http://spiw.atu.ac.ir>) in May 2018 in partnership with a group of well-known academic institutions from around the world. Lack of a comprehensive social policy agenda is seriously felt amid profound political upheavals in Muslim countries; hence this conference represents a timely response by the academic community. With a population of about two billion people, Muslims are predominating in nearly 40 countries around the world from Morocco and Algeria through Iran and Tajikistan to Malaysia and Indonesia and still form a considerable part of other mixed societies. One of the most outstanding features of Islamic social teachings revolves around social welfare concepts, principles, as well as strategies and solutions. However, it is not possible to portray a single picture of social policy in Muslim societies given the vast diversity of historical, political, and economic circumstances they have experienced as well as various cultural characteristics they possess. Despite these diversities they have to respond to more or less similar issues and problems with regard to family and gender, inequality and poverty, education, employment and health, housing and social care, as well as juvenile delinquency and criminal justice, etc. Hence, there is an important question on how do they deal with these issues and what is the status and role of Islamic teachings in such social policies. This international conference is aimed to address these broad questions and therefore welcomes papers dealing with a wide range of issues outlined in the **conference themes**. While focusing on this specific agenda, the conference themes have been designed in a way to cover a broad range of related topics from a multidisciplinary perspective and therefore welcome both individual papers and **closed panels** from researches engaged in various aspects of social policy.



CONFERENCES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LIFE SKILLS AND WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

9-11 February 2018, Lucknow (India)

The Indian Association of Life Skills Education (IALSE) is organizing the International Conference on Life Skills and Well-being of Children and Youth in the Digital World, which will be held in Lucknow, India from 9- 11 February 2018, hosted by Sri Jai Narain Post Graduate College, Lucknow and the Circle for Child and Youth Research Cooperation in India (CCYRCI).

With the digitalization and technological innovation in the present time, the 21st century world has become more competitive and fast pacing. Technology and digitalization has impacted all spheres of human lives. Hence, life skills become an important requisite to deal with the challenges posed in front of us, the skills we need to deal effectively with the challenges in everyday life, whether at school, at work or in our personal lives. Children and youth who are able to understand and use these skills, along with their educational qualifications, will be better placed to take advantage of educational and employment opportunities. In a constantly changing environment, having life skills is an essential part of being able to meet the challenges of everyday life. To cope with the increasing pace and change of modern life, students need new life skills such as the ability to deal with stress and frustration.

This conference will aim at emphasizing the importance of life skills for the wellbeing of various section of people especially children, youth, women, special people, elderly people, professionals, skilled and unskilled labour etc. The sub-themes of conference are as follows: Major Challenges of Life Skills Education in Digital World; Digitalization and well-being of children and youth; Life Skills for Happiness and Well-being of Special Children and Youth, Women and marginalized groups; Life Skills and University Level Education; Life Skills for Happiness and well-being of specially abled people; Government's Programs and Policies of life skills education; Life Skills and mental health; Life skills for leisure and recreation; Life Skills for peace and well-being; Psychological, Social, spiritual and Material well-being and life skills.

We look forward to host 500-plus international and national delegates, and envisage that the Conference will provide a unique opportunity for discussions and deliberations of various issues related to the topics. Lucknow is the capital city of Uttar Pradesh. It is renowned for its cultural heritage with its unique blend of Old Nawabi and Awadhi culture and the facilities of an upcoming metropolitan city.

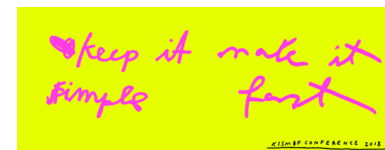
For details, please visit <https://ialseconference2018.org>



CONFERENCES

KEEP IT SIMPLE, MAKE IT FAST! GENDER, DIFFERENCES, IDENTITIES AND DIY CULTURES

3-7 July 2018, Porto (Portugal)



We are pleased to announce the fourth KISMIF International Conference ‘Keep It Simple, Make It Fast! Gender, differences, identities and DIY cultures’ (KISMIF Conference 2018) which will take place in Porto, Portugal, between 3 July and 7 July 2018.

The submission of abstracts for this conference is open to academic researchers working in all areas of sociology, anthropology, history, cultural economics, geography, urban planning, media and cultural studies and cognate disciplines, such as design, illustration, popular music, cinema, visual and performing arts.

This initiative follows the great success of the [three past editions](#) of the KISMIF Conference (held in 2014, 2015 and 2016) and brings together an international community of researchers focusing on underground music scenes and do-it-yourself culture.

The KISMIF Conference offers a unique forum where participants can discuss and share information about underground cultures and DIY practices. KISMIF focuses on cultural practices that are often pitched against more mainstream, mass-produced and commodified forms of cultural production. Aligned with this is an anti-hegemonic ideology focused around aesthetic and lifestyle politics. KISMIF is the first and so far, only conference to examine the theory and practice of underground DIY cultures as an increasingly significant form of cultural practice in a global context. The conference has a multidisciplinary approach, welcoming contributions from the global community of scholars and activists working on all aspects of underground scenes and DIY cultures, and based on various methodologies — quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods analysis. The goal is to discuss not only music but also other artistic fields such as film and video, graffiti and street art, theatre and the performing arts, literature and poetry, radio, programming and editing, graphic design, illustration, cartoon and comic fiction.

Seeking to respond to the desire reiterated by researchers, artists and activists present at previous KISMIF conferences, the 4th edition of KISMIF will focus on ‘Gender, differences, identities and DIY cultures’, directing its attention on gender issues relating to underground scenes and DIY cultures, and their manifestation at local, translocal and virtual levels. Expressions of gender in local, translocal and virtual spaces constitute important variables to understand contemporary cultures, their sounds, their practices (artistic, cultural, economic and social), their actors and their contexts. From a postcolonial and glocalised perspective, it is important to consider the changes in artistic and musical practices with an underground nature to draw symbolic boundaries between their operating modalities and those of advanced capitalism.

In 2018, the scientific programme of KISMIF will once again be accompanied by a diverse social and cultural programme, characterised by a series of artistic events, with special focus on underground music and other artistic expressions. The aim is to provide a unique experience in terms of the transglobal DIY cultures.

The conference will be preceded by a summer school entitled ‘[What difference do DIY cultures make?](#)’ on 3 July 2018 in Faculty of Arts and Humanities of University of Porto. The summer school will offer an opportunity for all interested persons, including those participating in the conference, to attend workshops led by specialists in these fields. More information about the Summer School will be progressively disseminated in the [KISMIF Conference website](#).

[Read more](#)

[Download the CfP](#)

Deadline: 10 February 2018

... papers

Societies

Special Issue on: “Young people, risk and opportunity across the globe”

Special Issue Editor: Howard Williamson (Email: howard.williamson@southwales.ac.uk)

Youth studies, youth policy and youth work are on the move. Youth studies are being reworked and reformulated to strengthen perspectives from the ‘global south’ and to diminish the ascendancy of European, North American and Australian perspectives that have classically prevailed, as if to speak for the world. Youth policy, whatever that means, is at least on the map, with proponents arguing for more transversal and integrated policy responses to the issues facing young people, from technological change to the prevention of violent extremism. Youth work, in many parts of the world, has come in from the shadows to become - as a key vehicle for experiential and non-formal learning - a complement to formal education. Much of this, however, hovers above the deep complexities and contradictions of young people’s lives as they play out and unfold within the shifting sands that frame the cultures and geographies of their communities and the changing economic and political winds within their societies.

Societies is calling for papers for a special edition that interrogates how young lives are ‘playing out’ and ‘working out’ - domestically, economically, politically and culturally - in different parts of the world.

If you are interested in making a significant contribution to the debate about young people in contemporary societies, please send an abstract of 300 words to howard.williamson@southwales.ac.uk.

The deadline for abstract submissions is 1st February 2018. You will be notified as to whether we wish your abstract to be developed into a full paper.

The deadline for full paper submissions, for peer review, will be 1st August 2018.

In this issue IBYR meets the Past President, James (Jim) Côté, our host in Toronto (see Feature story) and the Organisational Secretary, Howard Williamson, and asked about their introduction to RC34 and also their ongoing interest.

A personal note by...

Howard Williamson
(Organisational
Secretary)



Faculty of Business and
Society
University of South Wales

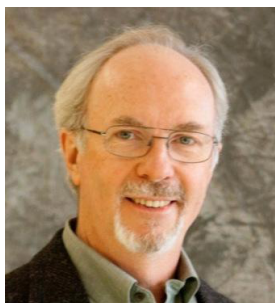
[howard.williamson@
southwales.ac.uk](mailto:howard.williamson@southwales.ac.uk)

I spent the early part of my working life as, simultaneously, a contract researcher and a practicing youth worker, later also accommodating a role of youth policy adviser within that portfolio. It was a strange combination, with a foot in three camps but also in none. For many years, therefore, I did not really see myself as an 'academic'. Only during the 1990s did the 'magic triangle' (as Lynne Chisholm depicted it) of research, policy and practice in the youth field come to be recognized and valued; and I had already epitomized it for a decade.

I was aware of rc34 throughout the 1990s, through simply meeting youth researchers who were members of the network and, indeed, sometimes stalwarts within it (like Sylvia Trnka, Lyudmila Nurse and Helena Helve). However, like Groucho (not Karl) Marx, I was determined not to be part of any club that would accept me! It was only when rc34 started to interface with youth policy work I was doing with the Council of Europe and the European Commission, at the end of the 1990s, that the late Lynne Chisholm (President 1998-2002) persuaded – instructed! – me to become a member. Otherwise, she told me, I would not be able to be part of her team that would be running a youth research and youth policy course in South Africa in 2000. So I joined and soon afterwards became Organisational Secretary. In that role, I have been actively involved in the organisation of the youth research strands of four World Congresses and three World Forums, and have served under five Presidents.

Youth research is, I think, thriving at the moment, not just taking on new, albeit different, youth issues and challenges throughout the world – such as social media and technology, radicalization and violent extremism, new forms of protest, mental health, migration – but also shining alternative perspectives on existing issues, such as (un)employment, housing, and volunteering, and how young people are dealing with them and addressing them in creative and innovative ways, exploiting their agency as well as succumbing to the structural determinants of disadvantage and exclusion. Youth research, over the past two decades, has cultivated and cemented its transnational and comparative credentials. The big issue today is the dismantling of the hegemony of theories from the global north (notably English-speaking UK, north America and Australia), as scholars from and of the global south strengthen their positions and challenge misguided presumptions from the past. There should also be excitement in the way youth research is grappling theoretically with contemporary issues through the application of classical concepts like 'generation' and 'resistance'; in Geoff Pearson's legendary words, shedding old light on new problems!

For me, right now in Europe, the big issue is how youth research can best explore and articulate the role of youth work in order to cement it within a broader youth policy framework: the professional and political work has now been done on youth work at a European level, but we now need more robust academic inquiry to interrogate the practice, purpose and experience of youth work in order to grasp its value and secure its future.

A personal note by...**James Cote**
(Past President)Department of Sociology
University of Western
Ontario (Canada)cote@uwo.ca

I became Involved in RC34 just before The World Congress in Montreal in '98. I was completing some work with Ola Stafseng on a different matter – I was the Founding Editor of the Journal 'Identity' – and he brought my attention to the ISA World Congress. So I joined in with RC34 colleagues. I was impressed, both with the commitment of the interesting people involved and their work was interesting.

In Canada, youth research as a field is spotty – say compared to Australia, it has not yet become such a large concern. We need to learn from other places in the world. Youth, as a field, does not have government support, and the policy interest tends to be more indirect, through other fields.

In terms of one key issue of concern and interest in the interface of youth research with social context, my focus would be in the macro perspectives, particularly the political economy perspective. Simply stated, it involves 'following the money.' That takes us to where the power is, and allows us to see how different groups are materially situated within the political economy. The youth segment is not situated well materially and it is getting poorer over time – which is why youth studies is such an important field.

RC34 mailing list

We have a new RC34 mailing list. The new address is: rc34@liste.unisa.it

We will NOT use the previous one: rc34@uwo.ca. Please, do not send messages to the previous address.

You will receive future news from the new one.

Members who would like to share information about events, publications, calls for papers, and other opportunities are kindly invited to contact us at: ibyr@unisa.it. We will send the news through the mailing list.



PHOTOGALLERY

RC34 IN ACTION THROUGH THE YEARS



Members who would like to share their older photos or photos of the next gathering with IBYR are kindly invited to contact us at ibyr@unisa.it



PHOTOGALLERY

RC34 REMEMBERS ANDY FURLONG (1956-2017)





ABOUT US

Aim and Structure

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.

The Committee is constituted by associational principles of individual membership, formal statutes, and a General Meeting every fourth year at the World Congresses, at which a new Executive Board is elected to oversee the RC between the Congresses. The work of RC34 is built on regional Vice- Presidencies managing local RC34 activities and networking in their respective areas of the world, along with 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.

History of ISA RC34 “Sociology of Youth”

The International Sociological Association (ISA) was founded 1948 in close cooperation with UNESCO’s Research Department. As peace, education and youth issues were in the forefront of the post war, sociopolitical legacy of this foundation, many of the first officers of ISA were also youth sociologists. In 1975, the Research Committee for the ociology of Youth (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 organizations aiming at conflict resolution, peace and the development of civic society. It is also the policy of RC34 to invite colleagues from other disciplines as well as practitioners in the youth fields to become members, and to serve as a global, interdisciplinary network and meeting place for youth issues in general.

JOIN US

- [International Sociological Association \(ISA\) Headquarters, Madrid \(via RC34 page\)](#)
- [Join ISA/RC34 or renewal your membership online](#)

RC34 BOARD

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