

Contributors

Saida Ali has been the Director of the Young Women's Leadership Institute, and has recently completed an Honours degree at the African Gender Institute. She has worked as a field officer for CARE, on issues of immigrant and refugee women in Dadaab, Kenya, and with other organizations exploring the practices of women's rights activism in eastern Africa.

Jane Bennett works at the African Gender Institute, University of Cape Town. Her research and her activist interests lie in politics of sexuality and gender, and in feminist philosophy.

Shereen Essof is an activist and writer who has been engaged in the Zimbabwean women's movement, and transnational struggles for social and economic justice since the late nineties. She is currently enrolled in a Doctoral programme at the Centre for Civil Rights at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

Jessica Horn is a poet, a women's rights activist and a writer, currently based in Sierra Leone. She was on the Working Group of the 2006 and 2008 African Feminist Forums.

Desiree Lewis works at the Women and Gender Studies Programme at the University of the Western Cape. While her primary discipline is critical theory, she has written extensively on questions of feminist research, embodiment and politics. She is also a board member of the Saartjie Baartman Women's Centre, a partnership NGO in Cape Town.

Catriona Macleod is the head of the Department of Psychology at the University of Rhodesia, in South Africa. Her doctoral work was on teenage pregnancy in South Africa, and she has published widely on issues of HIV and AIDS, economic security and issues of reproductive health and rights, and debates around termination of pregnancies.

Zethu Matebeni holds a Masters degree in Sociology from the University of Pretoria, and is currently a PhD fellow at WISER (Witwatersrand Institute for Social and Economic Research). She has been active in many NGOs around issues of HIV/Aids, and lesbian and gay rights, (and is the subject of one of the photographer Zanele Muholi's best-known silver gelatine prints, exhibited at the Michael Stevens Gallery in Cape Town last year).

Karabo Mohlakoana has just been appointed as Principal Secretary for the Minister of Health and Social Welfare in Lesotho, and before that has worked as a senior consultant in the National Institute for Development in Lesotho. She is a writer, a philosopher, and is a long-term activist.

Cynthia Mugo has been working as a Media and Communications officer at the Kenyan Human Rights Commission for the past few years, and is also enrolled in a Masters programme with the Centre for African Studies at the University of Cape Town.

Danai Mupotsa is a Zimbabwean, currently located in South Africa working on myriad cultural and political fronts. She writes as a journalist, a poet, and a researcher, and is currently enrolled in a PhD programme at Monash University, in Johannesburg.

Charmaine Pereira is the Director of the Initiative for Women's Studies in Nigeria, and has been active in feminist research since the mid 90's; see the In Conversation for full biographical details.

Vasu Reddy works at the Gender and Development Unit, of the Human Sciences Research Council, in Pretoria. He is an activist and researcher, working in the fields of sexuality, culture and language and has played a seminal role in the politics of LGBTI rights activism in South Africa and beyond. His PhD on the history of South African LGBTI activism is to be published in the near future.

Hanan Sabea works at the American University of Cairo, in the department of Anthropology and has also taught elsewhere (the University of Virginia, University of the Witwatersrand). Her interests revolve around questions of political economy, culture and history to create publications in a number of

areas (the socio-economics of plantation work in Tanzania, the construction of temporality and historicity, and the impacts and shape of globalization).

Meg Samuelson works in the Department of English at the University of Stellenbosch. Her research interests include African women's writing and postcolonial theory. She is one of three editors of *Social Dynamics*, and has just published a volume of critical writing, *Remembering the Nation, Dismembering Women?* with the University of KwaZulu/Natal Press.

Theo Sandfort is a research scientist at the HIV Centre for Clinical and Behavioural Studies and works in clinical sociomedical sciences, in psychiatry, at Columbia University. He has published widely on issues of sexual rights and health, with a particularly focus on lesbian and gay rights and activism.

Sylvia Tamale is the Dean of Law at the University of Makerere, and the director of the Law, Gender and Sexuality Project there. She is active in many feminist circles, including the African Feminist Forum, and has written extensively on questions of legal reform, feminist strategy and cultures of sexuality in contemporary Uganda.