

# UTS COSMOPOLITAN CIVIL SOCIETIES RESEARCH CENTRE

## Human rights: sites of vulnerability for refugees and migrants

### Seminar Series 2010

**When:** Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2010, 4pm - 6pm

**Where:** Cosmopolitan Civil Societies Research Centre, UTS City Campus  
Level 3, Mary Ann House, 645 Harris Street, Sydney  
(a short walk from Central Railway Station)

#### ABOUT THE SEMINAR

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##### HUMAN RIGHTS: WHY DOES THIS MATTER IN AUSTRALIA IN 2010?

Alison Peters, Director, Council of Social Service of NSW (NCOSS)

A brief overview of the current state of the Human Rights debate in Australia: why is the debate important and where politically are we at this point in time?

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##### SEEKING SAFETY, FINDING TERROR: REFUGEE WOMEN AND GIRLS AT HEIGHTENED RISK OF RAPE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE.

Linda Bartolemei of the Centre for Refugee Research at UNSW

Refugee women and girls face risks of rape and sexual violence not only during the height of armed conflict but at every stage of the refugee journey. Women and girls are routinely raped by border guards as they try to cross international borders and in detention and urban settings in countries of asylum. Sadly for many women at risk these dangers and human rights abuses continue in so called sites of safety including in refugee camps and in countries of resettlement. Since February 2002 Linda has undertaken research with refugee women in camps and urban areas in East and North Africa, India, Thailand, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka in order to better understand the extent and impact of this problem and to work with refugee women and UNHCR staff to find solutions. She will discuss the multiple sites in which refugee women and girls experience rape and sexual violence and the compounding impacts of multiple experiences of abuse including social exclusion, babies of rape. She will also explore the way in which shame, stigma, social exclusion, xenophobia, racial and cultural stereotyping can intersect to increase women and girls risks of further incidents of rape and sexual violence.

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##### MIGRATING TO EXPLOITATION: TRAFFICKING AND SLAVERY IN AUSTRALIA FROM A LABOUR RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE

Jennifer Burn, Director of the UTS Anti-Slavery Project & Assoc Prof UTS Faculty of Law

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##### DISCUSSANT & CHAIR

Prof Jenny Onyx, Coordinating Co-Director, UTS Cosmopolitan Civil Societies Research Centre & Professor in the School of Management, UTS Faculty of Business.

*Presentations are 10 to 20 minutes with 10 minute Q and A, followed by wider discussion. Refreshments will be provided.*

#### REGISTRATION

Please send registration details to: [ccs@uts.edu.au](mailto:ccs@uts.edu.au) & please include name, group or organisational affiliation & e-mail address

**THIS SEMINAR IS A FREE PUBLIC EVENT.  
PLEASE RSVP AS PLACES ARE LIMITED**