

Advanced Study Institute
The Politics of Diversity:
Pluralism, Multiculturalism and Mental Health

	Conference	Workshop
Institute of Community & Family Psychiatry 4333 Côte Ste-Catherine Rd., Montreal, QC	June 2, 2014 8:30 – 20:30	June 3-4, 2014 9:00 – 17:00

Globalization is bringing new tensions and challenges to efforts to build multicultural and inclusive societies. In the name of secularism, neutrality or security, policies are being enacted that target the cultural, linguistic and religious identities and practices of minorities. Policies of multiculturalism and interculturalism that promised greater engagement with others are being challenged by appeals to the vulnerability of dominant groups and the need to reduce the threats of minorities who are portrayed as radical and divisive. This international conference and workshop will bring together scholars from cultural psychiatry, psychology, anthropology, political science, sociology and philosophy to explore basic questions including:

- How does diversity contribute to mental health and well-being for individuals and communities?
- How is the “other” constructed and what are the consequences of “othering” for recognition or discrimination and suppression of cultural values and practices?
- What are the implications of recent challenges to multiculturalism and attacks on diversity in the public space for the health and well-being of populations?
- How can mental health research, policy and practice address the challenge of social integration in culturally-diverse societies?

Sessions will consider: (i) the social and political construction of the other; (ii) the psychology of “othering” and alterity with particular attention to gender; (iii) the relationship between diversity and mental health well-being; and (iv) strategies in mental health policy and practice to address the impact of social exclusion and respond to health disparities.

The format will be a public **Conference** and artistic event (June 2) directed to mental health practitioners, educators and policy makers, followed by a two-day **Workshop** (June 3 & 4) for researchers working on these issues.

Guest Faculty

Ghayda Hassan, Sushrut Jadhav, Uzma Jamil, Abdelwahed Mekki-Berrada, Natacha Premand, Radhika Santhanam-Martin

McGill Faculty

Jaswant Guzder, Catherine A. Jarvis, G. Eric Jarvis, Laurence J. Kirmayer, Myrna Lashley, Antonia Maioni, Morton Weinfeld, Daniel Weinstock, Rob Whitley

There will be a poster session on June 2, 2014. To submit a poster, please complete the form on the next page and send with your application for the ASI Conference. You can also find the dynamic electronic version of this form on our web page: www.mcgill.ca/tcpsych/training/summer/

Cover photo: L.J. Kirmayer
Cover design: Katya Petrov

Conference

(ICFP Amphitheatre)

- 8:30 - 9:00 REGISTRATION
- 9:00 - 9:30 **Welcome & Introduction: The Politics of Alterity** – Laurence J. Kirmayer
- SESSION 1 SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CONSTRUCTIONS OF THE OTHER
- 9:30 - 10:00 **“Vivre ensemble” through Difference: The Construction of Muslims as Other in Quebec**
Uzma Jamil, *University of South Australia*
- 10:00 - 10:30 **Feminism, the Veil, and the Problem of False Consciousness**
Daniel Weinstock, *McGill University*
- 10:30 - 11:00 BREAK
- 11:00 - 11:30 **Black Sheep and Mass Immigration: The Use of Caricature in Rejection of the “Other”**
Natacha Premand, *Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève, Switzerland*
- 11:30 - 12:00 **The Québec Charter of values and the future of living together in Québec**
Ghayda Hassan, *UQAM*
- 12:00 - 12:45 PANEL: **Multiculturalism and the Politics of Alterity**
- 12:45 - 14:00 LUNCH
- SESSION 2 DIVERSITY, MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
- 14:00 - 14:30 **Emotional Distress of Undocumented Sub-Saharan Women in Morocco**
Abdelwahed Mekki-Berrada, *Université Laval*
- 14:30 – 15:00 **Ethnic Density and Mental Health: Description and Analysis**
Rob Whitley, *McGill University*
- 15:00 – 15:30 **Caste, Stigma, and Mental Well-being: From Transition to Conversion**
Sushrut Jadhav, *University College London*
- SESSION 3 IMPLICATIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
- 15:30 – 16:00 **Ethnic Match in Health and Social Services: Pros and Cons**
Morton Weinfeld & Gabrielle Jacobs, *McGill University*
- 16:00 – 16:30 **Internalization of Race and Difference: Implications for Psychotherapy in a Diverse Society**
Jaswant Guzder, *McGill University*
- 16:30 – 17:00 **Othering Spaces: Uses of Alterity in Psychotherapy Training and Practice**
Radhika Santhanam-Martin, *Victorian Transcultural Mental Health, Australia*
- 17:00 – 18:00 PANEL: **Pluralism in Mental Health Policy and Practice**
- 18:00 – 19:00 **RECEPTION AND POSTER SESSION**
- 19:00 - 20:30 **FILM SCREENING**
Liberty, Equality, Accommodation
Stefan Nitoslawski
PANEL DISCUSSION: Laurence Kirmayer (Chair), Stefan Nitoslawski

POSTERS

Bringing the invisible to light: Experiences of microaggression among Jewish undergraduate students

Sumin Na, Sela Kleinman, Gauthamie Poolokasinghm, & Lisa B. Spanierman

Cultural competency may mitigate the stress of citizens' decision to interact with police relative to national security

Myrna Lashley, Ghayda Hassan, Sadeq Rahimi, S. Thompson, M. Chartrand, S. Touzin, R. Graumans, & A. Akhtar

Gender and the sense of well-being among refugees in St. John's Newfoundland

Rowan El-Bialy & Shree Mulay

Queer and Muslim: Understanding the impact of identity on psychological well-being in the United States and South Africa

Afshan Kamrudin

Reducing disparities and improving cultural competences in mental health care: The Mediacor unit at Centre F. Minkowska in Paris

D. Rostirolla, S. Larchanché, & R. Bennegadi

FILM

Liberty, Equality, Accommodation

Stefan Nitoslawski (Director)

Documentary, 52 min., 2010, French with English subtitles.

This one-hour documentary on the Bouchard Taylor Commission delves into the very current controversy around religious integration that sent Quebec into a unique experiment of participatory democracy. *Liberty, Equality, Accommodation* interviews the Prof. Bouchard and Taylor and focuses in on four ordinary individuals who dared step into the spotlight and take position within a conflict whose reality affects most Western democracies. *Liberty, Equality, Accommodation* is both provocative and inspiring. In February 2007, André Drouin, an Hérouxville alderman fired a broadside on the town's web page. (Hérouxville is north of Three Rivers.) Entitled *The Hérouxville Code of Conduct*, his pamphlet informed newcomers that women there may not be excised, stoned or burned alive. From one end of the province to the other a storm of voices and opinions greeted that announcement – and generated a unique expression of participatory democracy. The film is about this unprecedented collective experience.

Stefan Nitoslawski directs both documentary and fiction genres. Based in Montreal he has worked in the industry for over 20 years. He studied at the renowned Polish National Film Academy in the tradition of celebrated directors such as Wajda and Kieslowski. Early on Mr. Nitoslawski developed a fascination for documentary filmmaking. Focusing on this genre he searches for evocative methods to capture dramatic real-life situations. His work has been shown on A&E, Discovery, TVO and Vision TV. He is currently developing several projects for Canadian and international broadcasters. www.stefan-n.ca

Workshop

(ICFP Room G-23)

Tuesday, June 3, 9:00-12:00

SESSION 1 SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CONSTRUCTIONS OF THE OTHER

Introduction: Multiculturalism and the Politics of Alterity

Laurence J. Kirmayer, *McGill University*

Muslims and the Politics of Difference in Quebec

Uzma Jamil, *University of South Australia*

Feminism, the Veil, and the Problem of False Consciousness

Daniel Weinstock, *McGill University*

The Québec Charter of Values and the Future of Living Together in Québec

Ghayda Hassan, *UQAM*

Tuesday, June 3, 14:00-17:00

SESSION 2 THE PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY OF “OTHERING” AND ALTERITY

Black Sheep and Mass Immigration: The Use of Caricature in Rejection of the “Other”

Natacha Premand, *Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève, Switzerland*

Internal Divisions: Latter-Day Saints (LDS) and the Québec Charter of Values

G.E. Jarvis & Catherine A. Jarvis, *McGill University*

Cultural Competency May Mitigate the Stress of Citizens’ Decision to Interact with Police Relative to National Security

Myrna Lashley, *Lady Davis Institute and McGill University,*

Wednesday, June 4, 9:00-12:00

SESSION 3 DIVERSITY, MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Emotional Distress of Undocumented Sub-Saharan Women in Morocco

Abdelwahed Mekki-Berrada, *Université Laval*

Ethnic Density and Mental Health: Description and Analysis

Rob Whitley, *McGill University*

Caste, Stigma, and Mental Well-being: From Transition to Conversion

Sushrut Jadhav, *University College London*

Wednesday, June 4, 14:00-17:00

SESSION 4 PLURALISM IN MENTAL HEALTH POLICY AND PRACTICE

Ethnic Match in Health and Social Services: Pros and Cons

Morton Weinfeld & Gabrielle Jacobs, *McGill University*

Internalization of Race and Difference: Implications for Psychotherapy in a Diverse Society

Jaswant Guzder, *McGill University*

Othering Spaces: Uses of Alterity in Psychotherapy Training and Practice

Radhika Santhanam-Martin, *Victorian Transcultural Mental Health, Australia*

Presentation Abstracts

“Vivre ensemble” through Difference: The Construction of Muslims as Other in Quebec

Uzma Jamil, *University of South Australia*

The difference of Muslim minorities living in multicultural, Western societies is often posed as a problem, if not a threat, to national identity and social cohesion. This conceptualisation of Muslim difference draws from Orientalist discourse which constructs the Muslim Other in relation to the West as a negative, as a “lack of” certain qualities which define the hegemonic West. Critiquing this essentialized and fixed relationship, I propose to consider how difference is constructed through a process contextualised within minority-majority relations, in other words, arguing that the difference of Muslims as minorities is socially and politically constructed through the difference of the majority. Applied to the case of Quebec, the ways in which Quebec conceptualises itself as different in relation to English Canada – through language, culture and national identity – shapes the ways in which it articulates the difference of Muslim minorities as Other. This argument is illustrated through two examples, the public discourse about Muslims in relation to the proposed Charter of Quebec Values in 2013-2014, and the reasonable accommodation issue and the Bouchard-Taylor Commission in 2007-2008. This paper concludes by reflecting on the implications for how we think about diversity, difference and power relations between minorities and majorities in Quebec society. What does it mean for the future of Quebec society and the project of “vivre ensemble” lived through difference?

Feminism, the Veil, and the Problem of False Consciousness

Daniel Weinstock, *McGill University*

Defenders of Muslim women's right to veil (and of women of other faiths' rights to engage in practices which are judged by mainstream feminists as betokening female subjugation) often point to the fact that many women who veil claim to be doing so freely, in the absence of all coercion or constraint. Some feminists retort that these women are victims of “false consciousness.” Their claim is that these women have so fully internalized patriarchal norms that their coerced actions appear to them to be free. My paper will examine arguments of false consciousness in the context of liberal democracies. On the one hand, such claims must be used with great parsimony in a political culture which is hesitant to intervene paternalistically in the choices made by citizens. What's more, false consciousness arguments are suspect in that on the face of it they fail the Popperian test of falsifiability. On the other hand, it is hard to deny that some women do find themselves in oppressive conditions that tend to favour the formation of adaptive preferences. My goal is to develop a liberal theory of false consciousness, one that, first, insists upon respecting the choices made by women against the backdrop of fair background conditions, but that questions those arrived at when such conditions are lacking, and that, second, adopts modes of intervention in cases of false consciousness that avoid paternalistic excesses.

Black Sheep and Mass Immigration: The Use of Caricature in Rejection of the “Other”

Natacha Premand, *Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève, Switzerland*

In recent years, right-wing political parties in Switzerland have initiated several referenda on issues pertaining to the admission and residency of foreigners. In this paper, I will examine the ways in which the “other” is constructed in the political discourse of Switzerland’s Union Démocratique du Centre, one of the instigators of these referenda. I will argue that the image of foreigners in official discourse as important contributors to Swiss society and the economy is successfully undermined by their depiction by the right wing as “black sheep” – literally so in one controversial but effective advertising campaign. By also associating negative characteristics with particular ethnic groups, the right seeks to elicit fear and rejection. This contributes to establishing negative connotations with respect to all foreigners or minority groups, regardless of any explicit or specific voicing of concerns. In response to these campaigns, the United Nations’ Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination has recommended that the Swiss Federal Commission on Racism be given more independence from government and be empowered to regulate the media and political discourse. The paper attempts to better define the space created by these campaigns as a site of impact on the mental health of foreign populations and minority groups that has been neglected and is in need of urgent study.

The Québec Charter of Values and the Future of Living Together in Québec

Ghayda Hassan, *UQAM*, Cécile Rousseau, Janet Cleveland, *McGill University*, Uzma Jamil, *University of South Australia*

This two-arm mixed-method study assessed the discourse around the Quebec Charter and its impact on the future of living together in Quebec. The first study used a qualitative design to thematically and critically analyze discourses around the Charter and hate-based events/discourses targeting minorities and published in official media. Results show that positions tend to be polarised and use an ideological discourse based on overlapping of religion and gender equality with an underlying association of religion with extremism and terrorism, thus targeting mainly Muslim communities and more specifically, veiled women. The second study consisted of a web survey filled by a targeted sample of 200 university students measuring discrimination, identity, psychological well-being and perception of intercommunity relations. Data collection is underway and analyses will consist of multiple regression predictive models.

Emotional Distress of Undocumented Sub-Saharan Women in Morocco

Abdelwahed Mekki-Berrada, *Université Laval*

Morocco has become a “final destination” for thousands of Sub-Saharan migrants heading to Europe. These migrants can no longer reach Europe – whose borders have been considerably securitized since September 11 – just as they no longer wish to risk their lives returning south over the merciless Sahara Desert. They consequently find themselves in extended transit in Morocco, which is now the scene of a completely new sub-Saharan migratory movement. Drawing from interpretive and critical medical anthropology, as well as from critical security studies, the main objective of this paper is to discuss results from a research project I conducted in Morocco on the relationships between the securitization/externalization of Euro-Mediterranean borders, the subsequent traumatic experiences of sub-Saharan women migrants in prolonged transit in Morocco, and their emotional distress.

Ethnic Density and Mental Health: Description and AnalysisRob Whitley, *McGill University*

The ethnic density effect describes a phenomenon whereby adverse mental health outcomes among individuals from ethnic minorities are greater in neighbourhoods where they comprise a smaller proportion of the population. In this session, I will review a number of studies, which repeatedly suggest the operation of an ethnic-density effect for a variety of mental health outcomes. These include studies of suicide, deliberate self-harm, stigma and incidence of schizophrenia. Recent research indicates that similar protective density effects are witnessed for those bound together by non-ethnic characteristics, such as sexual orientation. I will further discuss evidence regarding the social and cultural mechanisms underpinning the ethnic density effect, drawing examples from my own research in inner-city neighborhoods of London (U.K), Montreal and Washington D.C. I conclude that individual mental health appears to be protected when individuals live in neighborhoods inhabited primarily by members of their own ethnic group. Implications for public policy will be discussed.

Caste, Stigma, and Mental Well-being: From Transition to ConversionSushrut Jadhav, *University College London, UK*; Bhargavi Davar, *Bapu Trust for Research on Mind and Discourse, Pune, India*; Sumeet Jain, *University of Edinburgh, UK*; S. Shinde, *Bapu Trust for Research on Mind and Discourse, Pune, India*

Dalit “untouchables” in the Indian subcontinent are largely excluded from full participation in everyday social life. They have poorer health outcomes compared to the general population, and are subject to degradation, humiliation and violent atrocities. Yet there is a striking absence of research examining the stigma of Dalit caste identity and its impact on mental well-being of Dalit “untouchables.” The paper addresses the nature of stigma associated with being an “untouchable” and how this shifts following conversion to Buddhism. This pilot ethnographic and focus group study was situated in an urban Dalit slum of Pune city, Maharashtra state, India, by a multi-caste, multi-disciplinary team of health professionals and social scientists. Results suggest that the nature of distress related to caste discrimination is both psychological and cultural, with an internalisation of the “gaze” of upper castes, and spatial-temporal dimensions within which both individual and institutional discrimination operates. Whilst Dalits who have not converted tended to aspire to a *sanskritised* identity, Dalit converted to Buddhism appear to have carved out a political identity to contest the stigma. The strategies employed to deal with discrimination include instrumental actions and political transformation. Dalit conversion to Buddhism suggests well-being is gained through the development of a dignity that results in a more articulate and political identity that contest existing ideas of modernity in India. The authors conclude that the phenomenon of conversion is not absolute. The paper suggest further research towards an examination of cultural landscapes that mediate the stigma of “untouchability”; ethnographic studies of innovative movements that contest and invert Dalit caste identity; and comparison of caste-related and cultural-identity stigma, with stigma associated with more formal mental or physical disorders that have been extensively researched. Furthermore, a study of castes within Indian Buddhists may identify more chronic markers of caste-related stigma. This has implications towards interventions that directly address well-being of “untouchables” in India.

Ethnic Match in Health and Social Services: Pros and ConsMorton Weinfeld & Gabrielle Jacobs, *McGill University*

Ethnic match is an approach to the provision of public services in various policy domains, in societies marked with significant ethnic, racial, or religious diversity. Minority recipients of services may be matched with professionals of the same background, receive services in ethno-specific agencies, or receive a type of service which is sensitive to the specific minority culture at issue. This paper explores the evidence that deals with the issue of ethnic match in the provision of mental health care, looking mainly at literature from the fields of psychiatry and psychology, including therapists with backgrounds in social work or counseling. A review of the literature reveals no clear pattern of benefits—or harms—from these various practices for the recipients of service in this particular policy domain. Implications for education, training, and practice will be explored.

Internalization of race and difference: Implications for psychotherapy in a diverse societyJaswant Guzder, *McGill University*

Racialized embodiment of ethnic difference has identity implications for visible minorities and may constitute a development line that runs parallel to that of gender identity with similar progression over the life cycle. Internalization of racialized identity and racism is a complex process that involves external agendas as well as intrapsychic realities. Yet the supervision of psychotherapists and family therapist rarely addresses countertransference or transference issues related to these realities. The social and political context of collectives and groups organizes resistance and openness to a discourse that allows these dimensions of identity to be discussed. This paper will elaborate through clinical examples of how these issues may present in therapy.

Otherring Spaces: Uses of Alterity in Psychotherapy Training and PracticeRadhika Santhanam-Martin, *Victorian Transcultural Mental Health, Australia*

Otherring occurs in everyday human encounters and may be playful or violent, normative or transgressive. In ordinary social contexts, othering may be “invisible” yet have profound effects for identity, health and well-being. The deliberate use of othering is a feature of many forms of psychotherapy, in which people are made to feel like strangers to themselves, social marking and exclusion are made visible, and the initial alienation of the clinical encounter gives way over time to a deepening mutuality. This paper explores the Othering process using a therapeutic-philosophical lens. Building on the recognition that positive or inclusionary and negative or exclusionary practices of Othering regularly occur in therapy and training contexts, we will address the juxtaposition of the inevitability and persistence of strangeness with our need to be related to the familiar. To illustrate these issues, we use Donna Orange’s framework contrasting the hermeneutics of suspicion and hermeneutics of faith. Vignettes drawn from clinical and training settings will demonstrate how Othering processes organize and develop in a network of conversations and how they get enacted and embodied. We argue for the need to hold both these hermeneutic positions (doubt and trust), in order to ethically respond to and respect the face of the Other.

Poster Abstracts

Bringing invisible to light: Experiences of microaggressions among Jewish undergraduate student

Sumin Na, Sela Kleiman, Gauthamie Poolokasingham & Lisa B. Spanierman

McGill University, University of Toronto, McGill University, Arizona State University

The purpose of this study was to investigate the experiences of religious microaggressions among Jewish undergraduates at a Canadian university. Burgeoning literature on racial microaggressions has provided a critical framework for understanding the experiences of visible minorities, and has made substantial contributions to social justice scholarship. Although the concept of racial microaggressions has broadened to address experiences of other marginalized groups (e.g., lesbian and gay individuals), little attention has been given to Jewish individuals, despite persistent anti-Semitic attitudes and hate crimes in the United States and Canada (Anti-Defamation League, 2008; B'nai Brith Canada, 2012). Undergraduates who self-identified as Jewish (n = 8) participated in a 90-minute focus group about their experiences with microaggressions on campus.

Key themes included: tolerating animosity, suspicion and the assumption of greed, encountering expectations of exclusivity and over-affiliation, and enduring a lack of institutional cultural sensitivity. Implications for research and campus diversity will be presented.

Cultural competency may mitigate the stress of citizens' decision to interact with police relative to national security

M. E. Lashley, G. Hassan, S. Rahimi, S. Thompson, M. Chartrand, S. Touzin,
R. Graumans, & A. Akhtar

Lady Davis Institute and McGill University, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), University of Saskatchewan, Ryerson University, Service de police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM), Lady Davis Institute, University of Saskatchewan, Ryerson University

In Canada, ethnocultural communities frequently accuse police of racial profiling. Global geopolitical concerns augment tensions and distrust, particularly when communities are viewed, or perceive themselves to be viewed, as national security risks. Stressors engendered by these perceptions make it difficult for communities to provide security officers with information if their community, or Canada, is threatened. It is, therefore, necessary that officers be trained in cultural competency, thus developing the skills to avoid alienating citizens while protecting Canada's security. *Aim of the study:* to determine the perceived culturally-competent behaviours of police, both nationally and locally, relative to Canada's security. *Procedure:* on-line survey focusing on Asians, South Asians, Blacks and Muslims, conducted in three Canadian cities, by The Environics Institute. *Sample:* convenient sample 1381 in Montreal, 1217 in Toronto and 789 in Saskatoon (n = 3387) recruited from the Institute's registered participants. *Results:* There is a positive relationship between citizens' perception of police behaviors and overall view of police. Participants who felt they were treated fairly, viewed police as displaying culturally-competent behaviours and, under certain circumstances, were more likely to report suspicious incidents. *Conclusion:* (1) citizen/police interaction is a factor in reducing or increasing stress when citizens most need to seek police assistance or provide them with information; (2) police need continued training in cultural competency; (3) governments should support programmes which support community resilience; and, (4) radicalization leading to violence can be viewed as a public health issue with cultural competence viewed as one of the inoculations.

Gender and the sense of well-being among refugees in St. John's, NewfoundlandRowan El-Bialy, MSc; Shree Mulay, PhD, *Memorial University*

Refugees often face adversity prior to, during, and after resettlement in Canada. Despite this, many refugees achieve a sense of mental and emotional well-being over time. Gender has a significant impact on how refugees experience the challenges and supports during resettlement, especially in a city like St. John's with relatively low ethnic diversity and limited social services. This study uses in-depth interviews and participant observation to explore what factors lead to refugees' experiences of well-being during resettlement in St. John's, Newfoundland. There are two objectives for this study: first, to identify social, institutional, and personal supports that promote a sense of well-being; second, to explore whether gender influences refugees' experiences of well-being. We hope that this study will contribute to designing resettlement programs for refugees that are sensitive to their needs and that create a sense of well-being for both men and women.

Queer and Muslim: Understand the impact of identity on psychological well-being in the United States and South AfricaAfshan Kamrudin, MPH, *Southern Methodist University*

Experiences of marginalization have well-established associations with decreased psychological well-being. The effects of marginalization are further compounded by experiences of multiple forms of marginalization and structural inequalities (i.e. employment, housing, education). However, the experience of people holding multiple marginalized identities may demonstrate the cultural embeddedness of stigma and discrimination within marginalized communities themselves. Queer Muslims may be challenged for both their religious identity, in a secular context, and their queer identity, in heteronormative or gendered contexts. Politics and media may also shape these experiences if these identities are framed negatively. Consequently, queer Muslims face distinct forms of discrimination within the minority communities they are a part of. How do queer Muslims conceptualize their identities? How do queer Muslims practice their identities in these spaces? How do their identities impact their psychological well-being? And what can we learn about what shapes the formation, expression, and practice of these identities from two national contexts?

Reducing disparities and improving cultural competences in mental health care: The Mediacor unit at Centre F. Minkowska in ParisD. Rostirolla, S. Larchanché, R. Bennegadi, *Centre F. Minkowska*

Increasingly, health care systems have to contend with the challenges of globalisation. The complexity of care partially stems from diversity in languages as well as representations of illness and therapeutic strategies, but also from the multifaceted impact of social, cultural and political factors. In response to this complexity, the Centre F. Minkowska created a work unit called Mediacor, consisting of a multilingual, multidisciplinary team (psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, medical anthropologist) whose objective is to clarify complex referrals and thus improve therapeutic propositions and outcomes. Mediacor takes on a person-centered, transcultural psychiatry approach to illness and treatment, while remaining coherent with French public health policy, based on universal healthcare access principles. Mediacor can be characterized as an innovative public health strategy aimed at reducing health disparities by improving care and healthcare access for immigrant populations. Moreover, this strategy is a critical factor towards ensuring social integration for these individuals.

Biographical Notes

Jaswant Guzder, MD, is Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, McGill University in the Division of Child Psychiatry and the Division of Social and Transcultural Psychiatry. She is senior staff at the Jewish General Hospital, where she is head of child psychiatry, director of childhood disorders day hospital, a founding co-director of the cultural consultation service, and director of the fellowship program in family and couple therapy. She is involved in research, teaching and academic work, with global health projects currently focussed on child mental health in India and Jamaica. She co-edited the volume *Cultural Consultation: Encountering the Other in Mental Health Care* (Springer, 2014).

Ghayda Hassan, PhD, is a registered Clinical Psychologist (Québec) and a professor of clinical psychology at UQAM University. She runs a cultural clinical psychology research group (UQAM) and is an affiliated Researcher with the Transcultural Research and Intervention Team, CSSS de la Montagne, Montreal, Canada, the GRAVE (Groupe de Recherche et d'Action contre la Victimization des Enfants), Montreal, Canada, and the CIHR-CIPREV (Centre for intercultural studies on prevention of gender violence). Her current research projects evolve around the 1) Evaluation and adaptation of psychosocial services for ethnic minority, immigrant and refugee families; 2) Identity, discrimination, inter community relation and mental health; 3) family violence and cultural diversity. Dr. Hassan believes that we cannot develop expertise in any specific cultural group, but rather that clinical cultural psychology is more about a clinical stance, 'a way of being with the other' and an approach to 'meaning making within the context of an encounter with the other'. Her clinical and research activities have not focused on any specific group, but rather focus on the interplay of culture, identity, mental health and violence among the specific studied groups. Often what determines working with a given group stems from the social realities at hand and particularly, the needs of clinical and community milieux with whom she closely works.

Gabrielle Jacobs is originally from Quebec City and is currently completing her BA degree in Sociology and Political Science at McGill. She is a research assistant for Professor Morton Weinfeld in McGill's Sociology Department. During the academic year, she is a program coordinator at McGill's Social Equity and Diversity Education Office.

Sushrut Jadhav, MBBS, MD, MRCPsych., PhD, is Senior Lecturer in Cross-cultural Psychiatry at University College London (UCL); Consultant Psychiatrist, for Focus Camden Homeless Outreach Services, Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK; Co-Director, UCL Cultural Consultation Service for Staff & Students www.ucl.ac.uk/ccs; Founding Editor, Anthropology and Medicine (Taylor & Francis, UK). Dr Jadhav graduated from Grant Medical College, Mumbai, and completed his postgraduate training in Psychiatry at the National Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences, Bangalore. He subsequently obtained his PhD in Cultural Psychiatry at UCL researching white British natives of London. His current research focusses around the axis of mental health & marginality across cultures. This includes 1) development of Bloomsbury Cultural Formulation Interview techniques to engage, assess and manage mentally unwell patients; 2) examining the cultural premise of western psychiatry; 3) stigmatization of mental illness across cultures; 4) traditional healing in India; 5) caste, conversion & stigma in Pune, India; 6) ethnographic investigation into exclusion from supplementary nutrition program in Gujarat, India, & 7) impact of Human-Elephant conflict in Assam, India, on the mental well-being of local marginalized human population. He currently supervises doctoral scholars conducting medical anthropological research on a) Suicide amongst cotton farmers in Andhra Pradesh, India; (b) Making of an Indian Psychiatrist. Dr Jadhav is also Co-Director of the UCL-BALM collaboration, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. www.balm.in; <http://www.teachinganthropology.org>. He is Advisor to an EHRC funded study on (b) Caste discrimination in UK.

Uzma Jamil, PhD, is a Research Fellow at the International Centre for Muslim and Non-Muslim Understanding at the University of South Australia. Her research is on social and political relations between minorities and majorities, with a particular empirical focus on Muslim minorities in Quebec and Canada. She has also worked with Dr. Cécile Rousseau and the Transcultural Research and Intervention Team for many years on several research projects dealing with the impact of the war on terror context for South Asian Muslim communities in Montreal. She is currently working on a monograph for University of Toronto Press, analysing the construction of Muslim subjectivity in Quebec and Canada.

Catherine A. Jarvis, MD, is a family physician at the CLSC Côte-des-Neiges, and a faculty lecturer in the McGill department of family medicine. Her clinical work involves caring for immigrants and refugees from diverse communities. Her research interests include the prenatal care of uninsured immigrants, and physician perceptions of immigrants without insurance. Dr. Jarvis is a participating member of the LDS church in Montreal, is involved in several interfaith initiatives, and sits on the executive committee of the Christian-Jewish Dialogue.

G. Eric Jarvis, MD, MSc, is Assistant Professor in the McGill department of psychiatry and director of the Cultural Consultation Service at the Jewish General Hospital. His clinical work involves the psychiatric evaluation and treatment of immigrants and refugees. His current research interests include the relation between psychosis and culture, language barriers to psychiatric services, and the process of cultural consultation. Dr. Jarvis also writes about the history of psychiatry. He is an observant member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Laurence J. Kirmayer, MD, is James McGill Professor and Director of the Division of Social and Transcultural Psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry, McGill University. He is Editor-in-Chief of the journal, *Transcultural Psychiatry*. He directs the Culture & Mental Health Research Unit at the Institute of Community and Family Psychiatry, Jewish General Hospital in Montreal, where he conducts research on culturally responsive mental health services, the mental health of indigenous peoples, and the anthropology of psychiatry. He founded and directs the annual McGill Summer Program in Social & Cultural Psychiatry. He co-edited the volumes, *Current Concepts of Somatization* (American Psychiatric Press), *Understanding Trauma: Integrating Biological, Clinical, and Cultural Perspectives* (Cambridge University Press), and *Healing Traditions: The Mental Health of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada* (University of British Columbia Press); *Cultural Consultation: Encountering the Other in Mental Health Services* (Springer); and *Re-Visioning Psychiatry: Cultural Phenomenology, Critical Neuroscience and Global Mental Health* (Cambridge). He is a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences and has received a CIHR senior investigator award, a presidential commendation for dedication in advancing cultural psychiatry from the Canadian Psychiatric Association, and both the Creative Scholarship and Lifetime Achievement Awards from the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture.

Myrna Lashley holds a PhD in counseling psychology from McGill University. She was an Associate Dean at John Abbott College. She is also an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry, McGill University as well as an adjunct researcher at the Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research of the Jewish General Hospital. She is an internationally recognized clinical, teaching and, research authority in cultural psychology, and serves as an expert psychological consultant to institutions, including the juvenile justice system. She has worked both as a consultant to First Nations and the Jewish communities, and as the Cross Cultural Trainer for the Grievance Committee office of the secretariat for McGill University. She has also conducted training workshops locally, nationally, and internationally and has acted as a consultant to the Brazilian health care system. She was a director of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation and has also served on the Comité consultatif sur les relations Interculturelles et Interraciales de la Communauté Urbaine de Montréal. Currently, she is the Chair of the Cross Cultural Roundtable on Security, as

well as Vice-chair of the board of the École Nationale de Police du Québec. In addition to conducting research on police matters, she has also been appointed to the Comité expert en matière de profilage racial as well as to the Comité expert sur la santé mentale of the Service de police de la Ville de Montréal. In addition, she has also authored two training manuals on intercultural issues in the workplace. She has received several awards including the Queen Elizabeth II 2012 Diamond Jubilee award; 2006 Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Award for Holocaust studies; the 2004 Martin Luther King legacy award; as well as the 1995 Merit Award for the Kahnawake Native survival school. Her current research focuses on the intersections of culture, terrorism and national security. She is currently Barbados's Honorary Consul to Montreal.

Antonia Maioni, PhD, is Professor in the Department of Political Science and the Institute for Health and Social Policy at McGill University. Her teaching portfolio spans across political science, Canadian Studies, and Medicine. She is also a member of the International Masters for Health Leadership program's teaching team in the Desautels Faculty of Management. On the national scene, Professor Maioni is serving as President of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences and sits on the Research Council of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR).

Abdelwahed Mekki-Berrada, PhD (Medical Anthropology, Université de Montréal, 1997), is Associate Professor at the Université Laval, Department of Anthropology and Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. He is currently involved in research-intervention-evaluation projects on sexual and mental health in Mumbai, India, on the mental health of undocumented migrants in Rabat, Morocco, and on "Living together" and Sufism in Montreal.

Natacha Premand, MD, is a Cheffe de clinique at the Centre ambulatoire de psychiatrie et de psychothérapie intégrée (CAPPI), Geneva University Hospitals, in Switzerland. She has a medical degree from the University of Geneva and is a psychiatrist and psychotherapist (Swiss Medical Association). She also has a MSc in Social and Cultural Psychiatry from McGill University. She has been practicing as a psychiatrist in the Department of Mental Health and Psychiatry at the Geneva University Hospitals since 2011, working mainly with asylum seekers and refugees. She also coordinates the University of Geneva's Certificate of Advanced Study in Public Mental Health.

Radhika Santhanam-Martin, PhD, is a clinical psychologist who works in the field of trauma. She has more than two decades of experience in clinical practice in institutions in India, Canada and Australia. In Australia, she has worked in tertiary hospitals, universities and health services as a clinical consultant and senior lecturer. Currently, she works in Melbourne, Australia in collaboration with organisations that work with refugees, asylum seekers, culturally and linguistically diverse groups and Indigenous families. Her interests and expertise include a) ways of working with cultures; b) attachment theory and therapeutic work; c) narrative methods of practice and d) enhancing reflective capacity between workers through peer-reflective supervision.

Morton Weinfeld, PhD, is Professor of Sociology and holder of the Chair in Canadian Ethnic Studies, at McGill University. He has researched and published on many aspects of immigration and multiculturalism in Canada, including the volume *Ethnicity, Politics and Public Policy: Case studies in Canadian diversity*, co-edited with Harold Troper. He has also written extensively on the Canadian Jewish case. He has over the years served on many advisory bodies, and consulted on multicultural matters at the federal and provincial levels.

Daniel Weinstock, PhD, studied Political Science and Political Philosophy at McGill University, where he received a BA and an MA, between 1980 and 1986. He received a DPhil in Political Philosophy from Oxford University, where he studied between 1986 and 1991. From 1988 to 1989, he was a visiting doctoral student at Harvard University. He completed postdoctoral work in the Department of Philosophy at Columbia University, before joining the faculty of the Department of

Philosophy of the Université de Montréal in 1993. From 2002 to 2011, he was the Founding Director of the Centre de recherche en éthique de l'Université de Montréal. In 2012, he became a Professor in the Faculty of Law and in the Department of Philosophy of McGill University. In 2013, he was appointed as Director of McGill's Institute for Health and Social Policy. His term as Director began on August 1, 2013. He has held Visiting Appointments at Université Lyon III, at the Australian National University, at Ritsumeikan University (Kyoto, Japan), and at Universitat Pompeu Fabra, in Barcelona, Spain.

Rob Whitley, PhD is a social scientist working at the intersection of psychiatry, sociology and anthropology. His work has focused on the mental health and health service experience of marginalized groups, including immigrants, ethno-cultural minorities, the urban poor and single mothers. Whitley is particularly interested in the concept of recovery, examining barriers and facilitators to recovery within both health services and the wider socio-cultural environment. He and his colleagues have evaluated many recovery-oriented psychosocial interventions such as supported employment, supportive housing and illness self-management programs. They have shown that cross-cultural communication, discrimination, stigma, religion and family involvement all play a role in influencing mental health service utilization and recovery. Whitley's current research includes examining community integration and recovery among minorities with severe mental illness. This research is providing insights into how best to help minorities and other marginalized populations recover. Whitley is also conducting a systematic analysis of media coverage of mental illness in Canada, in order to discern whether the media are taking a more positive approach to mental health. Whitley is particularly interested in the relationship between religion/ spirituality and mental health. Whitley is also interested in mental health and mental health services in developing countries. With colleagues, he has conducted research in Ethiopia and Jamaica, and continues to work in global mental health.