

IDS Sexuality and Development Programme



Sexuality and Development: An Annotated Bibliography

About the IDS Sexuality and Development Programme

The IDS Sexuality and Development Programme aims to achieve significant reductions in human rights violations, poverty and marginalisation through more effective development policy and practice that responds to the needs of people marginalised because of their sexuality. We undertake and support research and communications aimed at rethinking the relationship between sexuality, rights and development by building stronger links between people in different contexts working to realise their sexual rights. Working closely with established networks and movements around the world, our participatory approaches to protecting and respecting rights are based upon strategies drawn from local communities that are most affected.

To learn more about our work see: www.ids.ac.uk/idsresearch/sexuality and subscribe to receive our regular blog posts at www.participationpower.wordpress.com.

About the author

Kate Hawkins is Director of Pamoja Communications and sits on the International Advisory Group of the IDS Sexuality and Development Programme. She has worked as a policy analyst and advocate on sexual and reproductive health and rights. She is interested in the ways in which research influences policy and practice and mechanisms for enhancing communication and knowledge exchange. Kate is on the Steering Committee of The Pleasure Project, an initiative which aims to make sex safer by addressing one of the major reasons people have sex: the pursuit of pleasure.

Sexuality and Development Programme: An Annotated Bibliography

Kate Hawkins (Ed.)

IDS Sexuality and Development Programme

October 2013

Foreword

Creating this bibliography has provided us with an opportunity to reflect on some of the exciting thinking that has informed the Institute of Development Studies' (IDS) Sexuality and Development Programme's direction and on all of the wonderful partners and collaborators who have shaped the programme's work. It has been nostalgic and reinvigorating to reconnect with the passion and ideas that thinkers from around the world have brought to this area.

The IDS Sexuality and Development Programme is a reaction to the inadequate manner in which sexuality is approached by the development sector. Sexuality is not taken seriously: it is considered a frivolous, trivial issue that doesn't relate to the more important aspects of development such as poverty. This is something that needs to change.

This bibliography brings together texts on poverty, pleasure, gender, heteronormativity, rights, and a lot more! It is eclectic and this reflects global thinking on sexuality.

Of course we have our own interpretation of the direction that this bibliography should lead you in. We think that there are a number of harmful norms related to gender and sexualities that inhibit the effectiveness of development work. We feel that people working in the field should pay more attention to this. We would like to see more theoretical pieces on sexuality and development, and the creation of practical guidance to help people all over the world who are trying to make positive changes. It would be great if those donors, policymakers, private sector actors, and others who wield the cash and hold the cards, would take more time to listen to the voices of those who have spent their lives thinking carefully about these issues and who bear the brunt of any backlash caused by poorly thought-through interventions and marketing strategies.

Part of the challenge is figuring out which pieces of the puzzle you should focus on, wherever and whoever, you might be. So we will let the fantastic writing here speak for itself on this occasion.

We hope that you enjoy the bibliography, and that the ideas contained here inspire you to think differently about sexuality and development, whether you are an activist, academic, practitioner, policymaker, or something else entirely. They have certainly inspired us.

We extend our thanks to the authors featured here, Jas Vaghadia for her research assistance, the reviewers of this document, and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) for their support.

Kate Hawkins
Sexuality and Development Programme Advisory Group member

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Introduction

The Sexuality and Development Programme is coordinated by IDS in the United Kingdom. This annotated bibliography brings together all of the outputs which have been published by the programme since its inception.

The first grant received by the IDS Sexuality and Development Programme was from the UK Department for International Development (DFID). With their support, under the leadership of Susie Jolly, we convened researchers and activists from around the world to engage in dialogues about sexuality and development which we went on to publish and communicate in different formats, from journal articles, to policy briefs, to photo books.

Throughout the life of the programme co-financing has been provided by the Pathways of Women's Empowerment Research Consortium (Pathways). Andrea Cornwall of Pathways has been hugely influential in creating networks, fundraising and sparking new thoughts and collaborations. We are also indebted to the Realising Rights Research Programme Consortium for their support.

The work of the programme grew out of a series of meetings, instigated by the BRIDGE programme on gender at IDS, called 'Queering Development'. The idea behind these meetings was to mainstream sexuality in international development. But instead of being subsumed by development, participants hoped to shake up norms and hierarchies in the sector.

Throughout its lifetime the programme has consciously instigated conversations between movements in the global South. Equally, it has been aware that much of the work on sexuality is dominated by European and North American experiences and narratives. The programme has tried to find new ways of talking about sex and politics.

This bibliography was made possible because of funding that we receive from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) as part of a larger project on Gender, Power and Sexuality. Work under this grant aims to influence international agendas by amplifying local voices and convening activities where new narratives about sexuality might be triggered.

We created this annotated bibliography because we were aware that many of the resources that we had published were scattered over the internet and were not available in one place. By bringing them together we hope to raise the profile of some of the older publications which may have sunk from view and highlight the synergies in different authors' thinking. The papers are provided in date order so that older papers have prominence. Of course newer thinking owes a debt to those who have gone before.

We have tried to group the programme's outputs thematically. Inevitably this is an imperfect science and there are many publications which could sit comfortably in multiple sections of the bibliography. We apologise in advance for any poor practice in terms of the taxonomy of these resources.

Our preference would be that all of these resources are open access so that they can be used and enjoyed by the widest audience possible. In creating this bibliography we have contacted some of the journals that carried the papers and managed to secure free access to publications which were previously behind a pay wall. In other instances we have not managed to secure open access. If you find papers that you cannot access because they are in a journal that you need to pay for, you can try emailing the authors. Sometimes they will make their ideas available to you in different ways.

In the interests of accuracy and expediency we have often copied, pasted and adapted the words of authors for the summaries that accompany these references. We hope that we have done justice to the work of all of the authors included in this document. This is not an exhaustive bibliography of all thinking on sexuality and development. Instead it celebrates the legacy of one particular programme and the critical thinkers who informed it. We hope that you enjoy it and that future action is informed by it.

Development industry

**Jolly, S. (2000) *What Use is Queer Theory to Development?*, BRIDGE, Brighton: IDS
www.ids.ac.uk/files/dmfile/jollytalk.pdf**

Jolly explains how sexuality has only recently emerged as a development concern and that traditionally it has been seen as an issue which can only be dealt with once 'basic' or material (i.e. economic) needs are satisfied. She argues that Queer Theory can illuminate how sexuality can itself be a basic need, especially in situations where a person's sexuality can directly affect their access to economic resources, or when they are a victim of violence. Not fitting into 'norms' of sex, gender and sexuality can have direct and physical effects on the individual and should therefore be addressed in development projects. The second argument in this paper is that Queer Theory helps to challenge the 'Gender and Development' distinction between biological sex and social gender. In arguing that sex as well as gender is culturally determined, Queer Theory explains how categories like gender, sex and race are formed as a result of political and social power dynamics.

**Jolly, S. (2000) "Queering" development: Exploring the Links Between Same-Sex Sexualities, Gender, and Development', *Gender and Development* 8.1, March 2000
http://docstore.library.uvic.ca/Jolly_queering1.pdf**

Feminist activists and lesbians and gay people often face common issues. Gender norms underlie discrimination against those with same-sex sexualities. Control of women's sexuality is one rationale and mechanism for control of women more generally. Both feminists and lesbians and gay people in the South struggle against accusations that they are importing Western influences or betraying their cultures and traditions. This article argues that gender and development policy and practice could learn from Queer activism and Queer Theory. It draws on insights from cultural studies, and reflections from lesbian and gay activists from China, Europe and Africa. Recommendations are made for development practice including: supporting lesbian and gay organisations; adapting conceptions of the community, household and family; and integrating an understanding of same-sex sexualities into health, education and youth work.

**Armas, H. (2005) *Whose Sexuality Counts? Politic Visions of the Poor and their Sexualities. The Possibilities of Rights-based Approaches and Participation* (Spanish), BRIDGE
www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/go/home&id=53416&type=Document&langID=429**

In this paper Armas argues that the poor are often treated by development professionals as children without sexualities, rather than as citizens with a right to sexuality and pleasure. The development industry has only tended to engage with sexuality in relation to reproduction (not pleasure), or in relation to negative issues like HIV/AIDS. This paper considers how to shift to a more empowering view of sexuality by drawing on rights-based and participatory approaches which facilitate individual agency. These approaches recognise the rights of all people to take their own decisions over their bodies and sexualities, and to be accountable for the decisions they make.

Corrêa, S. (2006) 'Sexualities and Development: A Story in Pictures', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00296.x>

Current debates on sexuality and development need to be seen in relation to a longer historical cycle. This contribution provides a pictorial overview of the last three decades. It lays out the diverse influences from the 1970s, which produced both the Washington Consensus and Foucault's *History of Sexuality*, through to the current paradoxes of the 1990s and 2000s, with advances in sexual rights struggles pitted against the rise in conservatism and fundamentalisms. This timeline roots current sexual rights struggles in recent history, showing how the same themes resurface and gain new meanings over time. Throughout this history, how does development deal with sexuality? Development language regarding sexuality is far from transparent. Sexuality is never directly spoken about, yet it is here all the time. This is sharply illustrated by the population-development discourse, which entirely avoids the issue of sexuality, as if it would be possible for fertility to occur in the absence of the sexual act. However, the opacity of language around sexuality is now being pierced by the sexual rights discourse. Possibilities for further progress can be created by taking a political economy perspective that addresses the interactions between sexuality and structures such as class, race and gender, and recognises sexuality as a source of wellbeing, entitlements and fulfilment.

Gosine, A. (2006) "Race", Culture, Power, Sex, Desire, Love: Writing in "Men who have Sex with Men", *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00298.x>

Many names are given to identities and practices that suggest or involve sexual activity between men: queer, gay, homosexual, dandy, batty man, queen, bachelor, fag, etc. In international development, however, 'men who have sex with men' (MSM) has fast become the preferred descriptor for the myriad expressions of same-sex desire by men. This term was originally proposed as an alternative to 'gay' or 'bisexual' by grassroots activists and health care workers concerned about the impact of sexually transmitted diseases in their communities. This was a radical gesture at the time, a sharp refusal of the dominant narratives about sexual orientation and sexual behaviour that were being relayed by organisations led by white, gay identified men. However, the term has now been appropriated by the machinery of development, and its implications and effects have altered. MSM is now used as a catch-all category for non-Western and non-white men with same-sex practices. It mimics Orientalist strategies of collapsing cultural differences between 'third world' people and marking them as 'other'. The focus is placed on physical interactions and potential for spreading disease, while love, emotions and desires are ignored.

Jolly, S. (2006) *Not So Strange Bedfellows: Sexual Rights and International Development*, Palgrave Macmillan

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v49/n1/full/1100208a.html

Based on a session facilitated by BRIDGE at the 2005 Association of Women's Rights in Development (AWID) conference, Jolly's article explores the connections between development and sexuality. The speakers at the session argued that sexuality is itself a survival issue. For example, women can be stoned in Nigeria for suspected adultery, men have been murdered in Mexico for being gay, and transgender people are killed in the USA. Norms around sexuality can restrict women's ability to secure a livelihood by constraining female mobility, or may create new economic opportunities for women, for example through sex work or marriage. The speakers emphasise the importance of shifting to more positive approaches, including talking about sexual pleasure. Several concrete examples are described of initiatives in Turkey, Peru and Asia which view sexuality as a positive human right rather than only as a problem.

Cornwall A. (2006) 'Development's Marginalisation of Sexuality: report of an IDS workshop', *Gender and Development* 14.2, July 2006

www.ids.ac.uk/download.cfm?downloadfile=945C472E-5056-8171-7BBE29776F220ECE&typename=dmFile&fieldname=filename

In September 2005 a workshop was held at IDS at which activists, practitioners and academics came together to debate the challenge of realising sexual rights, and to share experiences of practical initiatives of working with a more positive, enabling approach to issues of sex and sexuality. In this paper Cornwall argues that development agencies have conventionally viewed sexuality as a health issue. Sex has been regarded as a source of danger, harm and disease. The words 'love', 'desire' and 'pleasure' are absent from the development lexicon. She calls on development agencies to redress the marginalisation of sexuality in their policies and programmes, and to recognise the significance of sexual wellbeing for all dimensions of development.

Jolly, S. (2006) 'Sexuality and Development', *Policy Brief*, Brighton: IDS (English and French)

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/go/home&id=53501&type=Document&langID=146

Using Robert Chambers' framework of the multiple dimensions of poverty, this IDS *Policy Brief* highlights the many links between sexuality and poverty, and suggests constructive ways to engage with sexuality as a development issue. It looks at how we can take a broader and more positive approach to sexuality, and how we can foster an environment that enables people to live out healthier, happier sexualities free from violence and fear. It gives examples of actions which shift the focus from negative to positive, from violence to pleasure, and shows how development can approach sexuality through health, human rights and sexual rights, gender, and religion.

Armas, H. (2007) *Whose Sexualities Count: Poverty Participation and Sexual Rights*, IDS Working Paper 294, Brighton: IDS

www.ntd.co.uk/idsbookshop/details.asp?id=939

Sexuality and sexual rights have generally been treated as secondary to 'more important matters' such as poverty. In the first part of this paper Armas explores the linkages between sexuality and other areas which are considered to be priorities in development, such as health, education, work, migration and political participation. He shows that sexuality is about so much more than sex. Social norms around sexuality have a huge impact on other areas, for example feminine boys and pregnant girls are more likely to drop out of school due to bullying, social pressure and lack of support. Employers and colleagues discriminate against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people at work. Rights-based approaches must maintain the principle of the integrality and indivisibility of human rights, and recognise the interdependence of sexual rights with rights to health, housing, food and employment. If poverty is understood to be not just material, but also to be about exclusion, ill-being, and restrictions on capacities and freedom, then the lack of sexual rights in itself constitutes poverty. The second part of the paper shows how participatory approaches can be a valid strategy to include sexual rights and wellbeing in the development agenda. Sexuality is an issue that enables people to work with politics at a very personal level; the very intimacy of working with issues of citizenship and rights through the lens of sexuality makes space for a transformative process of self-reflection that can lead to social action.

Jolly, S. (2007) 'Looking at Sida Work in Kenya from a Sexuality Angle', Trip Report BRIDGE

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/go/home&id=54404&type=Document&langID=1

Does sexuality affect your programme outcomes? Are any groups included or excluded on grounds of their perceived sexual behaviour? These were just some of the questions asked as part of a study

exploring how the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) has supported sexual rights in Kenya, both directly by supporting initiatives which promote sexual rights, and indirectly through integrating sexuality issues into programmes such as infrastructure and agriculture. Examples emerged of how sexuality affects programme outcomes, such as the Luo custom that the husband should have unprotected sex with his first wife before the first planting of the season. This has been noted by the Ministry of Agriculture as a cause of late planting, for example if the husband is away from home. The links between sexuality and poverty/wellbeing also became visible, such as the commercialisation of widow cleansing (where a man has unprotected sex with a widow soon after her husband's death so as to 'cleanse' her with semen). Some men are taking this up as an income generating activity, which means they will sleep with many widows. Recommendations are made based on the study findings, including the need for Sida to support more progressive understandings of sexuality which recognise the links between sexuality and power relations. The need to recognise the links between sexuality, poverty and wellbeing is also seen as imperative.

Campuzano, G. (2008) *Building Identity While Managing Disadvantage: Peruvian Transgender Issue*, IDS Working Paper 310, Brighton: IDS
www.ids.ac.uk/files/Wp310.pdf

Sexuality issues have gained considerable discursive space in the last two decades in the context of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Yet due to the attention drawn in the early years of the epidemic to homosexuality, this discursive space has largely framed men – both homosexual and heterosexual – as the primary sexual actors, whether as agents in sexual relationships or as transmitters of sexual diseases, and this has obscured all other sexual agents. Heterosexual women have been seen as unlikely perpetrators of either sex or disease. Lesbians, including bisexual lesbians, have been left out of the question altogether, as if the HIV/AIDS crisis has nothing to do with them. Transgender and intersex sexuality issues, including those related to the epidemic, have been sidelined by the rigidity of the male/female gender dichotomy that underpins the discussion. Sexuality only enters this framework as a factor of ill health or 'risk', which permits little of many peoples' actual experiences of sexuality, including pleasure, to be recognised. This paper draws on a two-year research project with transgendered people (*travestis*) in Lima that explored issues of identity considered important by many *travestis* in Latin America and on the socio-economic struggles that most face. It begins with a consideration of some of the conceptual issues that confront *travestis*, in particular in relation to the polarised gender categories of male/female. It goes on to place *travesti* issues in a 'development' framework, emphasising the ways in which *travestis* actively manage and challenge the many aspects of their disadvantage and social exclusion. Rather than a litany of the effects of social stigma, the discussion offers some key points for development in ways that do not threaten *travesti* identity. It illustrates some positive examples of work with *travestis*, as potential ways forward.

Cornwall, A.; Correa, S. and Jolly, S. (eds.) (2008) *Development with a Body – Sexualities, Development and Human Rights*, London: Zed Books

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/go/home&id=54364&type=Document&langID=1

In Stockholm, in April 2006, an unusual combination of people gathered together to debate the linkages between sexuality, human rights and development: an Argentinean lesbian activist, the Swedish Minister for International Development Cooperation, a South African sexuality researcher, a Turkish sexual rights non-governmental (NGO) organiser and a United Nations Special Rapporteur, among others. Out of these discussions came this book, which draws together contributions from participants at the seminar, and from others who participated in a workshop on Realising Sexual Rights held at IDS. The book explores a range of ways in which those working in the field of sexuality have brought about change. These include: fostering alliances that take us

beyond the restrictions of identity politics and gender binaries; re-modelling existing programmes and institutions to make them better fit complex local realities; extending analyses of poverty to encompass sexuality; and breaking the silence on sexuality to open up spaces for a more positive, affirming approach to development. Such an approach takes up terms that have never been part of development 'speak', such as love, pleasure, respect, and tolerance; and it recovers those, like solidarity and mutuality, that have been lost in the passage of time.

Bandyopadhyay, N. (2008) *Streetwalkers Show the Way: Reframing the Global Debate on Trafficking from Sex Workers' Perspectives*, IDS Working Paper 309, Brighton: IDS www.ntd.co.uk/idsbookshop/details.asp?id=940

This paper documents action research and discussions on trafficking by Durbar, a network of 60,000 female, male and transgender sex workers in India. Durbar finds that the realities of trafficking as experienced by sex workers are very different from the myths. Durbar's research found that while most of the sex workers they interviewed were poor and lacked options, they left home of their own choice, in search of better livelihoods, to escape violence or drudgery, or to seek love. Numerous agents, many of them known to the trafficked individuals, facilitated their subsequent travels and entry into sex work. Many of those trafficked into sex work were able to negotiate better terms within a year or two, after which they were free to leave. But many stayed in the industry because of the economic incentives, and because returning to their families was no longer an option due to the stigma associated with sex work. Durbar concludes that the fundamental cause of trafficking is the persistent demand for using trafficked workers who can be made to work without being provided with fair wages or safe working conditions, thereby hiking the profit margins of the employers. Thus Durbar sees as most urgent the need to establish better labour standards in sex work, and support individual sex workers who are tackling exploitative situations. This includes supporting unwilling and underage sex workers by helping them decide what to do, rather than handing them over to the police where they are likely to face more harassment. Durbar has done this effectively through setting up 'self regulatory boards' in sex work sites. To date Durbar has rescued a total of 560 unwilling women and underage girls. In sites where Durbar works, the proportion of sex workers under 18 years old declined from 25.3 per cent in 1992 to 3.1 per cent in 2001.

Jolly, S. (2009) 'Sexuality Activism in China – Lessons for and from donors', *IDS In Focus Policy Briefing 8.3*, Brighton: IDS

www.ids.ac.uk/go/idspublication/sexuality-activism-in-china—lessons-for-and-from-donors

Huge economic and social changes in China over the last couple of decades have allowed greater space for a diversity of expressions of love and desire, and for civil society to organise around these issues. Civil society activism, the internet, economic growth, and a shift from moralistic to pragmatic policymaking by government have all played a role – as has international donor funding. China's experience shows that work on sexuality can help to reduce HIV/AIDS, combat discrimination and marginalisation, and promote gender equality and wellbeing. Drawing on interviews with donors and activists in China, this Policy Briefing outlines lessons to be learnt for donors constructively to support work on sexuality.

Lynch, A. (2009) *Sexuality and the Development Industry Workshop Report*, Brighton: IDS www.ids.ac.uk/index.cfm?objectid=5DD69A20-D415-4CEF-261DFCFB9B017CCF

In April 2008, more than 70 activists, academics, donors and development practitioners from more than 25 countries gathered at IDS to explore the complex linkages between sexuality and the development industry. They traded stories, strategies and struggles, raised questions, challenged assumptions, made plans and built alliances. Those who attended were united by a desire to look critically at how the development industry addresses sexuality, and to identify entry points for

bringing development policies and practices – including efforts to address HIV – into closer alignment with the complexity of people’s desires, struggles and identities. This report aims to capture the spirit and the energy of the workshop, and to share some of the central themes and the contradictions that arose during three invigorating days of discussion and debate.

Cornwall, A. and Jolly, S. (2009) ‘Sexuality and the development industry’, *Sexuality and Development*, *Development* 52.1: 5–12, March 2009

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200891a.html

A Chinese lesbian activist shows photos from her three-way fake ‘wedding’, held in a Beijing restaurant to open up discussion on restrictive social and sexual norms; a Nicaraguan consultant tells the tale of how he was told the sexual and reproductive strategy he’d been commissioned to write contained ‘too much sex’; two Indian sex worker rights activists trade stories of hapless NGO efforts to ‘rehabilitate’ sex workers; and a Nigerian activist explains how she used discussions of multiple orgasms as a means to spark discussions on sex, pleasure, relationships, intimacy, polygamy and female genital mutilation with married couples in the northern Nigerian state of Minna, where Sharia law has been in place since 2000. These and other conversations brought together more than 70 activists, academics, donors and development practitioners from more than 25 countries at a workshop at IDS, in April 2008. This editorial provides an overview of the papers that emerged from this meeting.

Harcourt, W. (2009) ‘SexPolitics and Rights in Development’, *Sexuality and Development*, *Development* 52.1: 1–4, March 2009

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/pdf/dev200889a.pdf

Harcourt examines international development’s connections with sexuality with a view to highlighting more creative and constructive means of engagement. She highlights some of the areas of sexuality that are often ignored by the development sector such as difference, pleasure and a range of sexual and gender identities. As a result interventions and policies tend to focus on issues like violence and ill health which means that it provides only a partial response to the issues facing poor people. Furthermore many development interventions are structured around an agenda more concerned with regulation and control than rights, freedoms and empowerment.

Khanna, A. (2009) ‘Taming of the Shrewd Meyeli Chhele: A political economy of development’s sexual subject’, *Sexuality and Development*, *Development* 52.1: 43–51, March 2009

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200870a.html

Based on ethnographic fieldwork carried out in West Bengal, India, Khanna examines the conditions under which epidemiological knowledge about ‘men who have sex with men’ is produced and brought to circulate. He looks at conditions under which particular idioms of gender and sexuality are transformed into epidemiologically over-determined identity categories. The Sexual Subject that circulates in development praxis as an embodiment-in-the-world, it is argued, would be better understood in terms of the political economy that makes its intelligibility and circulation possible.

Amado L.E. (2009) ‘Sexuality and Sexual Rights in Muslim Societies’, *Development* 52.1: 59–63, March 2009; doi:10.1057/dev.2008.85

In August 2008, the Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies (CSBR) organised the CSBR Sexuality Institute, the first international institute on sexuality and sexual rights in Muslim societies in Malaysia. Amado explains how the institute expanded the discourse, knowledge and thinking around sexuality in Muslim societies, as well as providing a unique space for the much-needed exchange of information and experience among sexual rights advocates.

Campuzano, G. (2009) 'Contemporary Travesti Encounters with Gender and Sexuality in Latin America', *Development* 52.1: 75–83, March 2009; doi:10.1057/dev.2008.90
www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/abs/dev200890a.html

Campuzano presents issues of identity considered important by many *travestis*. He places *travesti* issues in a 'development' framework discussing the difficulties of the contemporary situation of *travestis* in Peru.

Otwoma, N.J.; Opiyo, N.A. and Kojwang, C. (2009) 'Saying No to Forced Early Retirement from Sex: Time to broaden the scope of HIV prevention in Kenya', *Development* 52.1: 105–8; doi:10.1057/dev.2008.78

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200878a.html

HIV prevention messages have an impact on people's sexualities in ways that are unimaginable. In Kenya, consultations with HIV-positive people under the *Maanisha* programme reveal that HIV prevention messages work to regulate and stigmatise sexual expressions among people already infected with HIV. Regrettably, these stereotypical strategies are promoted by health experts and HIV/AIDS service providers. Interventions must break with stereotypes and create spaces for behaviour change strategies that begin with positive peoples' lived experiences, acknowledging their complexities and working with them in a more equitable and mutually respectful interaction.

Gosine, A. (2009) 'Monster, Womb, MSM: The work of sex in international development', *Sexuality and Development, Development* 52.1: 25–33

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200882a.html

Gosine asks whether sex and sexuality have been left unconsidered in international development or not. Sex and sexuality, he argues, have always been at the heart of development. Three figures have haunted the project of international development: Monster, Womb, MSM ('Men who have sex with Men'). Anxieties about the sexual proclivities of these figures have driven and shaped the project of international development, both as a teleological metanarrative and in its material application. He proposes that neither silenced nor neglected, sex works in service of development, providing both the rationale and means through which to authorise and institute heteronationalism.

Atkin, L.C; Smith M. and Maxwell, J. (2009) 'Promoting Sexual Empowerment in Community-based Programmes', *Development* 52.1: 114–17; doi:10.1057/dev.2008.81

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200881a.html

Hesperian is developing an action resource (book- and web-based tool) that will complement its widely used *Where Women Have No Doctor* and help community activists work more effectively on all the topics in that book, published originally in 1997. One issue that the international team developing the new resource has prioritised is how to help community activists foster sexual empowerment for women. Atkin *et al.* describe the approach to sexuality in the book *Taking Action* (working title).

Williams, C.H. (2009) 'Same-sex Sexuality and Diversity Employment Policies in UK-based International Development Agencies', *Development* 52.1: 109–13; doi:10.1057/dev.2008.73

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200873a.html

UK-based international development agencies are introducing the concepts of diversity and sexual orientation into their staff employment policies for the first time. Based on interviews with agency staff and a study of diversity policy documents, Carolyn Williams outlines some of the difficulties that have emerged. She proposes that future debates and policymaking need to explore how to

interconnect sexual identity, and social and cultural diversity, while paying careful attention to the protection of the individual's right to privacy.

Seshu, M.; Bandhopadhyay, N. in conversation with Overs, C. (2009) 'How the development industry imagines sex work', *Sexuality and Development, Development* 52.1: 13–17

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200886a.html

Meena Seshu and Nandinee Bandhopadhyay work with sex workers and speak with Cheryl Overs, a sex rights activist, at an open-floor session during the IDS conference on Sexuality and the Development Industry.

Ganesh, I.M. (2010) *Mobile love videos make me feel healthy: rethinking ICTs in development*, IDS Working Paper 352, Brighton: IDS

http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.2040-0209.2010.00352_2.x/abstract

Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICT4D) discourses tell stories of poor farmers using the internet to compare crop prices, and nurses who use SMS to remind people to take their anti-retrovirals. Do nurses also use work mobiles to make private phone calls? Do farmers surf for pornography when they are supposed to be comparing crop prices? Information and communication technologies are positioned as tools and processes to fight poverty and facilitate empowerment through economic and educational gains. Ganesh argues that this discourse ignores the diverse ways in which the poor and the marginalised use media technologies in their everyday lives for social networking, entertainment, to produce and participate in intimate and erotic economies, and to express and experience their sexuality, relationships, pleasure and intimacy in ways that could also be considered empowering. Media use (like development) is an area where sexualities are actively made and remade. ICT4D needs to include an understanding of the potential emotional and sexual effects of interventions. Ethnographic studies of media consumption and use are needed to provide a deeper understanding of sexuality in a way that contributes to applications in a development context. This paper presents one such ethnographic study on how a community uses mobile phones, with the hope that it may provide clues and cues for people and organisations working across these related areas of ICT4D, sexuality, culture and gender. This paper presents a short pilot project of in-depth interviews with six self-identified Kothis, a South Asian feminine male identity. This was supported by observations of and participation in weekly support group meetings in an HIV-related NGO of which they are members. The study finds that information and communication technology changes possibilities for finding sex, love and social mobility, as well as presenting new channels for harassment by police and others.

Jolly S. (2010) 'Sexuality and Poverty: what are the connections?' *Overview and Literature Review*, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

www.sxpolitics.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/sida-study-of-poverty-and-sexuality1.pdf

Few studies and reports examine the relationship between poverty and the denial of sexual rights. However, an emerging literature by researchers, activists and organisations shows that in many cases, poor people are more vulnerable to abuses of sexual rights, and that such abuses can entrench poverty. This overview and literature review illustrates the necessity for economic policies and poverty reduction efforts to take account of sexuality. If they don't, they risk exacerbating exclusions and inequalities, and becoming less effective because denial of sexual rights can contribute to poverty and poverty can make people more vulnerable to abuse of sexual rights. However, this is not always the case. Some richer people are more constrained in terms of expressing their sexuality for fear of jeopardising their inheritance or reputation. Some people who

break rules around sexuality may gain in material terms – for example a girl who stays in school instead of marrying young, or a man who takes care of his health instead of demonstrating his masculinity through risky sexual behaviour. Either way, sexuality and economy are interconnected. Most economic systems are heteronormative – i.e. structured around a particular model of heterosexual relationships. International development programming can reinforce these heteronormative structures.

Sahni, R. and Shankar, V.K. (2013) *Sex Work and its Linkages with Informal Labour Markets in India*, IDS Working Paper 416, Brighton: IDS
www.ids.ac.uk/files/dmfile/Wp416.pdf

Based on the results of the First Pan India Survey of Female Sex Workers (n=3000), this paper positions sex work within the broader spectrum of informal labour markets with which women engage in India. It puts forth an important dimension missing so far in sex work studies in India – that of sex workers with prior or simultaneous labour market work experience. Informal labour markets act as important sites/junctures linking poverty with sex work. For a substantial proportion of respondents, sex work was not their first experience of paid work. In the face of poverty and an early quest for livelihoods, they were pushed into informal labour activities, characterised by low wages and imminent possibilities of abuse. Placed in this context, their later entry into sex work emerges with a strong economic rationale and agency, as a deliberate, calculated choice offering higher incomes.

Human rights, law and policy

Sharma, J. (2005) *Reflections on the Rights Language and Queer Sexuality*, BRIDGE, Brighton: IDS

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/go/home&id=53361&type=Document&langID=1

In this paper Sharma argues that the language of rights has given much to the Queer movement. Yet there are also limitations to the usefulness of rights-based language which arise from the narrow way in which it is often used. This paper draws on the experiences of PRISM (People for Rights of Indian Sexuality Minorities), an activist forum based in India which works on queer issues. In order for the language of rights to be useful for queer activism there is a need to recognise the dangers of narrowly defined identity politics and engage with intersectionality (the inter-connections between sexuality and other aspects of identity such as class, caste and gender). It is also important to challenge the heteronormative framework of sexual rights (the unquestioned assumption that heterosexuality is the only 'normal' sexuality). This requires an approach which draws on feminist and queer politics to draw out the links between different forms of oppression and promote a more liberating discourse of sexuality.

Cornwall, A. and Jolly, S. (2006) 'Sexuality Matters', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/idsb.2006.37.issue-5/issuetoc>

A 'Realising Sexual Rights' workshop was held at IDS in 2005. This article summarises some of the debates that unfolded there. Cornwall and Jolly argue that over the last decade, development policymakers and practitioners have come to endorse a multi-dimensional approach to poverty, and growing attention has been placed on achieving greater freedom, wellbeing and human rights for all. It is no longer possible to ignore discrimination, inequality and social exclusion; yet when it comes to the economic, social, political and rights implications of sex and sexuality, there is a silence. Treated as a 'health issue', or disregarded as a 'luxury', sexuality barely features in development debates, unless in

negative AIDS references. Sexuality is treated as a problem which needs to be contained rather than as an integral part of human experience. They describe a range of articles in the *Bulletin* which provide diverse accounts of sexual rights conceptions, mobilisation, and new approaches to implementation. The human side of sexuality is combined with macro-political and analytical issues. Contributions include research into experiences of sexuality in diverse contexts and among diverse people, with personal stories of activism and initiatives that transform the ways in which sex and sexuality are experienced. The introduction draws together threads that weave across the issue, exploring their interconnections and implications for theory, policy and practice.

Sharma, J. (2006) 'Reflections on the Language of Rights from a Queer Perspective', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00302.x>

The reflections shared in this article draw upon Sharma's experiences as a member of PRISM (People for Rights of Indian Sexuality Minorities), a queer activist forum based in New Delhi, India. Sharma explores the limits of rights language in the context of the realities and needs of queer activism, especially in relation to dialogue with other progressive groups. The article suggests that the articulation of queer issues only in terms of rights could limit the discourse on same-sex desire, and that alternative, feminist framings could offer more potential for developing strategies for achieving justice and equity.

Rashid, S.F. (2006) 'Small Powers, Little Choice: Contextualising Reproductive and Sexual Rights in Slums in Bangladesh', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00305.x>

What do we mean when we speak of reproductive and sexual rights of women, particularly in the context of extreme poverty and rapid social and economic changes occurring in urban slums in Dhaka city? In this article, Rashid discusses some of the evolving factors which shape young women's reproductive and sexual health experiences in the broader conditions of rapid urbanisation and extreme poverty. The reproductive experiences and behaviour of the urban adolescent women in this study bring into relief issues of political economy, the structural roots of poverty, power and powerlessness, social hierarchies of age, gender and class, and cultural practices. For poor adolescent women, reproductive and sexual health cannot be separated from the social, political and economic conditions of everyday life.

Bhana, D. (2006) 'The (Im)possibility of Child Sexual Rights in South African Children's Account of HIV/AIDS', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00304.x>

HIV/AIDS necessarily invokes sexuality – and sexuality and associations of sexuality and young people are usually considered problematic. Child rights discourse calls for children to be treated as autonomous individuals. While they may benefit from adult protection, this discourse views them as capable, interactive social agents who engage with people and institutions. Bhana's article argues that exploring children's understandings of HIV/AIDS from the perspective of 'rights' can open a space through which to move beyond commonly found representations of the African child as either simply a victim of HIV/AIDS or as a subject instrumentally exerting new 'rights' stemming from South Africa's democracy.

Rios, R.R. (2006), 'Developing Sexual Rights: Challenges and Trends in Latin America', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00301.x>

The situation concerning the rights of lesbian, gay and transgender persons in Latin America can be examined from various perspectives. These might include analyses of the successes and failures, the limits and possibilities, and the formal recognition of these rights by Latin American national states, in an approach pertaining more to political science. Studies can also be proposed on the effectiveness of existing rights, based on the degree of commitment by various government institutions involved in their enforcement, adopting a more sociological perspective.

Anthropological research can also point to the impacts that formal recognition of these rights can have on the social representations concerning these groups, both inside and outside the groups themselves. In this article, Rios examines the current situation regarding the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people from a legal perspective. The article begins with a typology of legal frameworks as to the level of repression against (or legal protection of) LGBT people. This initial exercise is followed by listing the trends and challenges in the Latin American scenario. He concludes with observations on what might be done to further advance efforts to overcome discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Sheill, K. (2006) 'Sexual Rights are Human Rights: But How Can We Convince the United Nations', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00300.x>

Across the world, there is much talk and action on sexual rights: individuals campaign; organisations run programmes; academics publish papers; activists lobby. We have learnt a great deal and enjoyed many successes. Yet in the international human rights sphere, ten years on from that first articulation of sexual rights in the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA), there has been little progress and much opposition. In this article, Sheill examines some of the dynamics around the human rights discourse on sexual rights at the international, intergovernmental level.

Campuzano, G. (2006) 'Reclaiming Travesti Histories', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00299.x>

Campuzano's paper outlines the pre-Hispanic history of *travestis* in Peru. He explores what recovering the value given to the role of the *travesti* in indigenous culture has to offer the struggles of *travestis* for rights and recognition in contemporary Peru.

Baudh, S. (2006) 'Sodomy in India: Sex Crime or Human Right?', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00303.x>

In this article, Baudh argues that Section 377 (the anti-sodomy law) is an assault on the personal liberty of every free Indian. It violates autonomy, independence, free will and sovereignty of the people over their own bodies. He concludes that a right to sexual autonomy would go a long way, not only in challenging 'carnal intercourse against the law of nature' and realising the rights of same-sex sexualities and transgender identities, but also in evolving a rights-based approach to a whole spectrum of issues including gender, abortion, pleasure, sex work, sexual diversity and reproductive and sexual health.

Armas, H. (2006) 'Exploring Linkages Between Sexuality and Rights to Tackle Poverty', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00297.x>

Armas explores the linkages between sexual rights and the other so-called 'more important rights'. His main argument is not that sexual rights are not less important than rights to education, health or work, but that sexual rights are all these rights.

Jolly, S. and Correa, S. (2006) 'Sexuality, development and human rights', Expert Group on Development Issues, Department for International Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/go/home&id=32697&type=Document&langID=1

Historically development work has dealt with sexuality in limited ways, the best illustration being the subsuming of sexuality under family planning that prevailed from the 1960s on. From the 1980s, these limitations would be systematically contested, and the UN conferences of the 1990s (particularly Cairo and Beijing) adopted new policy frames which addressed sexuality in relation to health, human development and human rights. But even after these major breakthroughs, approaches to sexuality remained limited in many ways. For instance the connections between sexuality and poverty are scarcely mentioned in relevant policy discourse. Current development approaches to sexuality tend to focus on the negative aspects – violence, ill health and exploitation – to the exclusion of the positive aspects such as wellbeing, fulfilment and pleasure. Sweden's new Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights policy goes some way towards challenging these limitations. This paper provides recommendations on how to take that challenge further.

Cornwall, A. and Jolly, S. (2006) *Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights* (English and French), Eldis, Brighton: IDS

www.eldis.org/health/srhr.htm

Development agencies have long addressed issues of sexuality and reproduction. However, traditionally, they have dealt with them in largely negative ways. Whether through population programmes or the use of scare tactics in HIV prevention work, sexuality has been regarded as a problem that needs to be controlled rather than as a positive force that can be part of the solution. New approaches are emerging which recognise sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) as human rights – an end in themselves. These positive approaches recognise that the realisation of sexual rights, including rights to pleasure and fulfilment, underpin all the major health and development goals. Aimed at policymakers, donors and practitioners working in health and beyond, this guide reviews current policy issues and explores cutting edge debates relating to SRHR. It also features summaries of key readings with links to further resources.

Cornwall, A. and Jolly S. (2007) 'Realising Sexual Rights', Workshop Report, Brighton: IDS

www.ids.ac.uk/files/RealisingSRids.pdf

A meeting report of the 'Realising Sexual Rights' workshop that took place at IDS in September 2006.

Jolly, S. (2008) 'Rethinking Sexuality and Policy', *id21 Insights* 75, Brighton: IDS

www.ids.ac.uk/go/idspublication/rethinking-sexuality-and-policy

What do sexuality and policy have to do with each other? Is not sexuality personal, private, and more to do with your body than your politics? Of course on one level it is. However, if we consider

our sexual relations in a little more depth, we discover that the terms for them are set by policies and politics, including social norms and gender dynamics, national policies and international relations.

Najlis, C.A. (2009) 'Approaches to Sexuality in a Multilateral Fund in Nicaragua', *Development* 52.1: 64–67; doi:10.1057/dev.2008.74

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200874a.html

Najlis identifies the interests and priorities of different actors in the development industry in Nicaragua regarding sexuality issues, through the analysis of documents produced by FED and civil society organisations (FED's framework document and 122 project proposals) in the context of two of the project selection processes: one in 2006 and the other in 2007.

Pimenta, C.; Corrêa, S.; Maksud, I.; Deminicis, S. and Miguel Olivar, J. (2010) 'Researching Policy Response to HIV/AIDS and the Role of the Sex Worker Movement', *ABIA AIDS, Brazil*

www.abiaids.org.br/_img/media/Relatorio%20prost%20feminina%20INGLES.pdf

This is the report of a study that sought to explore the consistencies and inconsistencies between Brazilian policy on HIV and its actual implementation among female sex workers. It charts the ways that this policy has evolved over the last two decades, the various political agendas at play, the experiences of female sex workers and the perceptions of health policy managers. It concludes that health policy has opened up spaces for sex workers to participate as citizens and has promoted human rights and worked to counter stigma and discrimination. However in Porto Alegre and Rio de Janeiro the quality of the public health response to the needs of sex workers is still limited and is mostly restricted to health promotion. The report explores the Brazilian government's decision of 2005 to refuse USAID funds on the grounds that the restrictions that they imposed on the country would prevent efficient HIV programming with sex workers and would impact negatively on different actors in the health sector.

Overs, C. and Hawkins, K. (2011) 'Can rights stop the wrongs? Exploring the connections between framings of sex workers' rights and sexual and reproductive health', *BMC International Health and Human Rights* 2011, 11, Supp 3: S6.

www.biomedcentral.com/1472-698X/11/S3/S6

Overs and Hawkins reflect on the connections in various actors' framings between sex workers' sexual and reproductive health and rights and the ways that international law is interpreted in policing and regulatory practices. There is growing interest in the ways in which legal and human rights issues related to sex work affect sex workers' vulnerability to HIV and abuses including human trafficking and sexual exploitation. International agencies, such as UNAIDS, have called for decriminalisation of sex work because the delivery of sexual and reproductive health services is affected by criminalisation and social exclusion as experienced by sex workers. The international legislation characterises sex work in various ways which do not always accord with moves towards decriminalisation. Law, policy and regulation at national level and law enforcement vary between settings. The demands of sex worker rights activists do relate to sexual and reproductive health but they place greater emphasis on efforts to remove the structural barriers that limit sex workers' ability to participate in society on an equal footing with other citizens. The review covered academic and grey literature such as resources generated by sex worker rights activists, UN policy positions and print and online media. The argument in this paper has been developed reflectively through long-term involvement with key actors in the field of sex workers' rights.

Serrano Amaya, J.F. (2011) 'Challenging or Reshaping Heteronormativity with Public Policies? A Case Study from Bogotá, Colombia', *IDS Working Paper 361*, Brighton: IDS www.ids.ac.uk/files/dmfile/Wp361.pdf

In 2007 the mayor of Bogotá signed a decree which established public policy for the full guarantee of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in the city. This legal measure was the end point of a long lobbying and advocacy strategy implemented by activists and organisations working on gender and sexual diversity. In this Working Paper the author presents that experience as part of the process in which subordinated social sectors, such as gender diverse and sexually diverse people make themselves political subjects. While this kind of public policy is a novelty in Colombia and Latin America, it is also an opportunity for normative systems to readjust and create new ways to normalise people. The promotion of certain queer people as proper citizens, the regulation of ways to interact with the state, the co-option of social mobilisations and the transformation of grassroots organisations into private service providers, are just some of the risks that a scheme like this faces. The author was part of the social mobilisation that motivated this particular public policy scheme in the early 2000s and was involved in its design, planning and initial implementation between 2007 and 2010. This paper is situated in a problematic position between political activism, consultancy work and construction of knowledge based on the practice. It is a contribution to the memory of a rich, and in many ways unique, experience.

Gender and women's empowerment

Jolly, S. (2003) *Development Myths Around Sex and Sexualities in the South*, BRIDGE, Brighton: IDS

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/go/home&id=52675&type=Document&langID=1

This paper was prepared for the international workshop 'Feminist Fables and Gender Myths: Repositioning Gender in Development Policy and Practice' which was held at IDS in 2003. In this paper Jolly argues that in development representations of the South, sexuality is either ignored, or discussed only in relation to disease and violence, or reproductive decision-making based on material interests. Development tends to assume that sexuality in the South is uniformly heterosexual, and to do with either reproduction or HIV/AIDS but never pleasure. Practitioners, activists and researchers around the world are increasingly challenging this conception of sexuality. Their work illustrates the diversity of sexualities, showing that sexual pleasure is part of the story and can even be considered a human right by some organisations. Jolly concludes that international development actors would do well to listen to such views, rather than assuming sexuality is not an issue, or imposing their own preconceived model on others.

Huq, S. (2005) *Sex Workers' Struggles in Bangladesh: Learnings for the Women's Movement*, BRIDGE, Brighton: IDS

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/go/home&id=53360&type=Document&langID=1

In 1999 the government of Bangladesh forcefully evicted sex workers from a large cluster of brothels just outside Dhaka. Members of the sex worker organisation Ulka immediately sought support from Naripokkho, a country-wide women's NGO. The Naripokkho office was transformed into an impromptu shelter with more than 40 women sleeping there, and a few more staying with staff in their homes. This led to a new set of relationships and alliances between the sex workers and staff. Naripokkho and other Bangladeshi women's organisations supported a campaign for the rights of the sex workers and their struggles to defend themselves against the illegal evictions. This

article explores the lessons learnt by these organisations through their involvement. It suggests that these struggles gave a new and more public meaning to discussions on sexuality and sexual rights that had already been taking place within the women's movement.

Djordjevic, J. (2006) 'Vagina Sisters, Crying Men, Soap Opera Stars and Sushi: The Story of the Vagina Monologues in Belgrade', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00314.x>

V-Day is a global movement to stop violence against women and girls. Through the promotion of creative events that celebrate women's sexuality, like the Vagina Monologues, V-Day increases awareness, raises money and 'revitalises' the energy of existing organisations working to stop violence against women. In this article, Djordjevic tells the story of the staging of V-Day in Belgrade, and uses it to reflect on the promise of the V-Day movement in struggles for the realisation of women's sexual rights.

Tamale, S. (2006) 'Eroticism, Sensuality and "Women's Secrets" Among the Baganda', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00308.x>

In a bid to gain a better understanding of African women's sexuality, this article focuses on one particular cultural/sexual initiation institution among the Baganda people of Uganda, the Ssenga. At the helm is the paternal aunt (or surrogate versions thereof), whose role is to tutor young women in a range of sexual matters, including pre-menarche practices, pre-marriage preparation, erotics and reproduction. Tamale argues that while Ssenga facilitates and reinforces patriarchal power, at the same time it subverts and parodies patriarchy. Through a deconstruction of the arrangement of gender and sexuality as constituted by the institution of Ssenga, this article investigates constructs of Kiganda sexuality, and of femininity and masculinity within them. How has the evolution of Ssenga affected the (re)interpretation of entrenched norms concerning femininity, masculinity and subjectivity? Does it in any way represent any liberating possibilities for women?

Welbourn, A. (2006) "'Man Hunt Intimacy: Man Clean Bathroom": Women, Sexual Pleasure, Gender Violence and HIV', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00313.x>

This article explores how men's contribution – or lack of it – to household tasks and expenditure, and the daily burden of running a home is also closely linked not only to sexual intimacy and pleasure, but also to sexual dissatisfaction, gender violence and HIV.

Amado, L.E. (2006) 'Promoting Sexual Rights Through Human Rights Education: Experiences at Grassroots in Turkey', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00312.x>

Throughout the world, sexual rights remain one of the most contested domains of women's human rights. Issues around sexuality are those that first come under attack, be it from international platforms such as the United Nations, or in national contexts. This article draws on experiences from Turkey, a context in which struggles for sexual rights contend with patriarchal norms and conservatism about women's sexuality. It draws on the experience of the Turkish women's rights organisation, Women for Women's Human Rights (WWHR) – New Ways, and explores how taking an affirmative approach to sexuality can open up space for women to claim their sexual rights.

Greig, A. (2006) 'Sex and the Rights of Man', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00307.x>

Issues of power and privilege often lie hidden within claims and calls for a discourse of 'men and sexual rights' that takes account of both gender norms and sexual hierarchies. Central to this call is a conception of accountability that is at once personal and political; the political accountability of duty-bearers to promote and protect the sexual rights of all rights-holders, men and women; and the personal accountability of men in relation to the ways in which their gender privilege serves to deny the sexual rights of others. Greig's understanding of these issues springs from his work over the last 20 years on HIV/AIDS, gender and violence, mostly as an independent consultant working with non-profit organisations to support their work in the global South and as an activist working on issues of masculinity, violence and social justice in the USA.

Touray, I. (2006) 'Sexuality and Women's Sexual Rights in the Gambia', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00306.x>

Why do sexual rights and women's sexual rights in particular attract such controversy, especially in the African context? In all societies, women's sexuality is socially and politically constructed, and in many it is also shrouded in secrecy, not subject to the light of public debate. In the Gambia, these two facts combine to cast the notion of sexual rights as a foreign import, designed to undermine culture, tradition and dignity. This article and the perspectives it offers are influenced by grassroots activism. Touray engaged with colleagues in the Gambia working with poor, powerless women and girls whose roles and positions profoundly circumscribe their sexuality and sexual rights. She draws on testimony from some of these women, who narrated their experiences in workshops organised by GAMCOTRAP (Gambian Committee on Traditional Practices).

BRIDGE *Gender and Development in Brief*, Issue 18 (2006) 'Sexuality' (English, French, Portuguese and Spanish), Brighton: IDS

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/vfile/upload/4/document/1109/Sexuality_IB_English.pdf

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/vfile/upload/4/document/1105/EnBref18-Sexualité%20final.pdf

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/vfile/upload/4/document/1105/InBrief18_Sexualidade.pdf

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/vfile/upload/4/document/1105/Sexuality_IB_Spanish.pdf

Sexuality can bring misery through sexual violence, HIV/AIDS, maternal mortality, female genital mutilation, or marginalisation of those who break the rules, such as non-macho men, single women, widows who re-marry, sex workers, people with same-sex sexualities, and transgender people. Sexuality can also bring joy, affirmation, intimacy and wellbeing. How can we make possible more joy and less misery? This 'Cutting Edge Pack' hopes to inspire thinking on this question – with an overview report outlining key issues on gender, sexuality and sexual rights in the current climate; a supporting resources collection providing summaries of key texts, tools, case studies and contacts of organisations in this field; and a *Gender and Development In Brief* newsletter with three short articles on the theme.

Esplen, E. (2007) 'Gender and Sexuality: Supporting Resources Collection', (English, French and Spanish), Brighton: IDS

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/go/home&id=53848&type=Document&langID=1

Mobilising around sexuality is not new. Activists and practitioners have long been working on issues such as HIV/AIDS; sexual violence; abortion; sex work; and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights. What is new is the integrated, affirmative approach to sexuality that is increasingly being adopted. This Supporting Resources Collection provides summaries of writings and initiatives that reflect these new approaches. It outlines practical examples of sexuality training from around the

world; provides case studies of activism and programming around sexuality; and summarises toolkits designed to facilitate advocacy, programming, training and self-education in relation to sexuality. It also lists useful web resources and provides networking and contact details of organisations working on gender and sexuality. Details of how to obtain copies or download the full texts are provided with each summary. This collection forms part of the 'Cutting Edge Pack on Gender and Sexuality'.

Ilkharacan, P. and Jolly, S. (2007) 'Gender and Sexuality: Overview Report'

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/go/bridge-publications/cutting-edge-packs/gender-and-sexuality/&id=53850&type=Document&langid=

Why are gender and sexuality important for policymakers, practitioners and activists? Sexuality and gender can combine to make a huge difference in people's lives – between wellbeing and ill-being, and sometimes between life and death. Sexuality can bring misery through sexual violence, HIV/AIDS, maternal mortality, female genital mutilation, or marginalisation of those who break the rules, such as non-macho men, single women, widows who re-marry, sex workers, people with same-sex sexualities, and transgender people. Sexuality can also bring joy, affirmation, intimacy and wellbeing. How can fulfilment, wellbeing and pleasure become more possible for all? New thinking on sexual rights seeks to provide answers while recognising that we need to look at the positive and pleasurable sides of sexuality, and to make these more possible for all. This is particularly the case for those for whom gender norms obstruct opportunities to seek pleasure and fulfilment – such as many women; lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people; people living with HIV/AIDS; and people with disabilities.

Campuzano, G. (2008) *Museo Travesti del Peru*, Lima: IDS.

This gorgeously illustrated book brings together a collection of art, reportage and writing that exhibits the historical and contemporary manifestation of gender crossings in Peru. *Museo Travesti del Peru* sets out to reclaim expressions of gender dissidence, trace their ancient origins. It aims to create a space to reclaim those histories and to make visible the rich traditions, culture and self-expressions of people who in today's Peru suffer marginalisation, discrimination and violence because of their non-conformity with norms of gender expression. Campuzano's ground-breaking museum reaches out to *travestis* with affirmation of their identities and validation of their cultural histories, as well as to the general public, to enlighten them about their country's pre-colonial traditions. To move from a heteronormative to a queer understanding of Peruvian history, as Campuzano's book does, reaffirms the place that *travestis* have played in that history.

Huang, Y. (2008) BRIDGE Report 70: *Key Sexuality Resources in Chinese*, Brighton: IDS

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/reports/R70_sexuality_resources_chinese_Huang_Ying.pdf

How do young Chinese women perceive their bodies and their sexuality? How do male sex workers construct and act out their masculinity in contemporary China? Can women in Taiwan express their sexual desires and lead sexually liberated lives? What changes have taken place in the sexual lives of Chinese university students over the last ten years? These are just some of the compelling questions explored in this resource, which presents 20 publications in Chinese that focus on different aspects of sexuality and sexual rights in China. These include academic as well as activist books, papers and documentary videos from mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. The papers cover issues such as sex work, gay and lesbian studies, youth sexuality, sexual practices and relationships, traditional and contemporary sexual culture in China, son preference and abortion, and marriage. Each resource is summarised in Chinese and English, and full references are provided, along with details of where to obtain the full document.

**Pereira, C. (2008) *Changing Narratives of Sexuality – Concept Paper*, Brighton: IDS
www.pathwaysofempowerment.org/PathwaysWP4-website.pdf**

Heterosexuality is reinforced as the norm by the media, the law, religion and the development industry. It provides the foundations for broader notions of 'normal' sexuality, relationships and households which in turn underpin male privilege. But perceptions of sexuality are shifting. Arenas such as popular music and soap operas, as well as counter-narratives produced by women activists, for example, provide a window onto social expectations and accepted roles and behaviours. They provide narratives – or stories – that reflect people's everyday perceptions of gender relations and the worlds in which they live. Alternatively they may challenge these and be used to transform lives and cultures, contributing to women's empowerment. The paper starts by asking how sexuality is understood and maps its relations to gender and heterosexuality. This is followed by an examination of norms, power and privilege in the context of heteronormativity – the assumption that relationships are heterosexual and entail men and women taking on certain socially acceptable gender roles. The paper also asks what is meant by empowerment and agency, with an example from Egypt that shows how women formed groups in which to read and discuss the Koran and other literature and in so doing created their own subtle meanings of these religious texts.

**Bhana, D. and Pattman, R. (2009) 'Researching South African Youth, Gender and Sexuality Within the Context of HIV/AIDS', *Development* 52.1: 68–74,
[doi:10.1057/dev.2008.75](https://doi.org/10.1057/dev.2008.75)**

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200875a.html

In the context of HIV/AIDS, young people have become central to contemporary South African social thought and education policy concerns, regarding changing behaviour, addressing gender inequalities, safe sex and preventing the spread of the disease. Yet we know very little about how young people in specific social contexts give meaning to gender and sexuality. Greater understanding of these processes would appear vital to successful educational strategies in the protection against HIV/AIDS in South Africa. Bhana and Pattman argue that the lives and identities of young men and women must be central to any initiatives for changing behaviour.

Pereira, C. (2009) 'Interrogating Norms: Feminists theorizing sexuality, gender and heterosexuality', *Sexuality and Development*, *Development* 52.1: 18–24

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200884a.html

Pereira looks at changing debates on gender and sexuality. She highlights feminist theorising that asserts that in order to understand the complexity of heteronormative social relations, it is important to examine the relations among gender and sexuality in general, and heterosexuality in particular.

Nadine (2009) 'Feminists Reclaiming Creativity, Unity, Numbers and Time', *Sexuality and Development*, *Development* 52.1: 56–58, [doi:10.1057/dev.2008.83](https://doi.org/10.1057/dev.2008.83)

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200883a.html

On behalf of Meem, the community of and for lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer (LBTQ) women in Lebanon, Nadine delivered one of the most exciting and talked-about speeches at the opening plenary of the International AWID Forum: *The Power of Movements*, held in Cape Town in November 2008. She looks at sexuality in relation to feminism from the perspective of an activist working to have women's self-defined expression of sexuality accepted openly in mainstream culture.

Edström, J. (2010) ‘Time to Call the Bluff: (De)-constructing “Women’s Vulnerability”, HIV, and Sexual Health’, in *Development* 53.2: 215–221

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v53/n2/full/dev201024a.html

Edström argues that common interpretations of vulnerability in gender and development discourse, policy and practice tend to reinforce essentialisms about men and women. These interpretations compromise our ability to think clearly about the structural influences on HIV and sexual health, as well as its relations to gender inequity and women’s empowerment. He examines some predominant constructions of women in the AIDS response, based on the notion of vulnerability, and suggests how unhelpful the notion of vulnerability is to the political project of women’s empowerment in redressing inequality and injustice.

***Contestations* (2010) ‘Sexual Pleasure Empowers Women!’, edited by Susan Jolly, Issue 2, also in Chinese**

www.contestations.net/issues/issue-2/

http://blog.sina.com.cn/s/blog_473d53360100kn6q.html

Contestations is an e-journal from the Pathways of Women’s Empowerment Consortium. This edition features articles from Susan Jolly, Hania Sholkamy, Sylvia Tamale, Petra Boynton, Li Yinhe, Sonia Correa, Pinar Ilkcaracan and Shivananda Khan.

Hawkins, K.; Cornwall A. and Lewin, T. (October 2011) ‘Sexuality and Empowerment: An Intimate Connection’, *Pathways Policy Paper*

www.pathwaysofempowerment.org/Sexuality%20and_Empowerment_Policy_paper.pdf

What does sexuality have to do with women’s empowerment? Research from the Pathways of Women’s Empowerment Research Programme Consortium shows that sexuality affects women’s political and economic empowerment in a number of important ways. For example, in the ways that women experience seeking election to political office, how women are treated and respected (or disrespected) in the workplace and in public, and how families and communities place expectations on how women should behave. Being exposed to sexual harassment and sexual violence and not being able to exercise choice in their sexual relationships affects women’s wellbeing and ultimately undermines political, social and economic empowerment. In this policy paper, the authors demonstrate why sexuality is so important for women’s empowerment, drawing on evidence generated by research carried out by the Pathways of Women’s Empowerment RPC and collaborative initiatives with the IDS Sexuality and Development Programme.

Pleasure

Gosine, A. (2004) *Sex for Pleasure, Rights to Participation, and Alternatives to AIDS: Placing Sexual Minorities and/or Dissidents in Development*, IDS Working Paper 228, Brighton: IDS

www.ids.ac.uk/idspublication/sex-for-pleasure-rights-to-participation-and-alternatives-to-aids-placing-sexual-minorities-and/or-dissidents-in-development

The term sexual minorities and/or dissidents is used here to describe lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people. These people have usually only been openly included or allowed to participate in the development industry in relation to HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS is an important entry point, but it brings with it negative associations of sickness and stigma. HIV/AIDS resources are

directed towards groups assumed to have high-risk behaviours – such as men who have sex with men – and not to those considered low risk, such as lesbians. This paper identifies alternative strategies for participation in development, particularly the adaptation of rights-based approaches to development and including the affirmation of sexual pleasure as a basic human right. The author considers which, if any, of these new development agendas provides the most promising terrain for negotiating the rights and wellbeing of sexual minorities and/or dissidents, and for including them in processes of decision-making that affect their lives, families and communities.

Knerr, W. (2004) 'The Global Mapping of Pleasure', *The Pleasure Project*

www.thepleasureproject.org/content/File/Global%20Mapping%20of%20Pleasure_2nd%20Ed_Nov09.pdf

How can a focus on pleasure help promote safer sex? The Pleasure Project mapped initiatives taken around the world which use pleasure as a primary motivation for promoting sexual health. This resource presents these initiatives, including: programmes which eroticise male and female condoms; sex-positive books for teenagers; work with churches to improve sex among married couples; erotica designed for HIV-positive people; and pleasure and harm-reduction counselling for sex workers. Twenty-seven initiatives are briefly outlined, along with contact details of the organisations involved.

Gordon, G. and Lewis, J. (2005) *Terms of Contact and Touching Change: Investigating Pleasure in an HIV Epidemic*, BRIDGE, Brighton: IDS

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/go/home&id=53367&type=Document&langID=1

There is a real problem in the way that Western-led discussions about sexual health have foregrounded warnings of 'what not to do'. If pleasure is one key reason why people have sex, sexual health work must open up discussion on how pleasure can be experienced with less risk. However there are challenges in addressing pleasure in safer sex work. How people experience pleasure is influenced by power structures such as gender, class and race as well as by the globalised media. Safer sex and HIV prevention work thus needs to take account of how pleasure is constructed, as well as the diversity of how pleasure is experienced by individuals in different contexts. Giving examples from the numerous safer sex trainings and community initiatives they themselves have coordinated, the authors argue that discussing pleasure is possible in practical terms and indeed welcomed by many.

Hazra, A. (2006) 'Enhancing Sensuality for Safer Sex Among Men in India', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00309.x>

This article explores the link between 'pleasure' and 'health and development issues', two concepts that seem unrelated but which in reality are very much linked. Drawing on personal experiences, participation in a number of sexual health studies in West Bengal, observations, secondary research and interviews with key informants in and around Kolkata, this article explores the relationship between sensuousness and safer sex among men who have sex with men (MSM) living in Kolkata and its suburbs. Hazra suggests that making sex safer for MSM calls for an approach that introduces elements of sensuousness.

Knerr, W. and Philpott, A. (2006) 'Putting the Sexy Back into Safer Sex: The Pleasure Project', *IDS Bulletin* 37.5

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1759-5436.2006.tb00310.x>

Sexual pleasure is beginning to be recognised as a determinant of sexual health in the reproductive health and human rights fields. The Pleasure Project builds bridges between the pleasure/sex industry and the safer sex world by avoiding negativity, as well as ensuring that erotic materials include examples of safer sex and that sexual health and training materials include pleasure as a key element. In this article, Knerr and Philpott give a brief account of some of the Pleasure Project's work, and reflect on how a more sex-positive approach to safer sex can help promote greater sexual wellbeing.

Jolly, S. (2007) *Why the Development Industry Should Get Over its Obsession with Bad Sex and Start to Think About Pleasure*, IDS Working Paper 283, Brighton: IDS

www.ntd.co.uk/idsbookshop/details.asp?id=936

Summary of this paper

www.ids.ac.uk/go/idspublication/why-the-development-industry-should-get-over-its-obsession-with-bad-sex-and-start-to-think-about-pleasure

The development industry has emphasised the dangers of sex and sexuality – in relation to population control, disease and violence. This negative approach to sex has been filtered through a view of gender which stereotypes men as predators, women as victims, and fails to recognise the existence of transgender people. In reality, pleasure and danger are often entwined – not least because for many, seeking pleasure entails breaking social rules. However, the oppressive frameworks which forbid pursuit of pleasure are not the only dangers associated with sexuality. There are other fears to do with sex such as anxieties about loss of control, merging with another, intense sensation, triggering emotions, invoking previous experiences, fear about not being satisfied, fear of losing the object of love or lust, fear of catching a sexually transmitted or other infection. This ambiguity is part of many consensual sexual experiences. How should development actors negotiate this ambiguous mix of pleasures and dangers in sexuality? This question is important to many aspects of human development – such as dealing with HIV/AIDS, tackling sexual violence, and supporting more fulfilling relationships. Part of the answer is to move to more positive framings of sexuality which promote the possibilities of pleasure as well as tackling the dangers at the same time. The promotion of sexual pleasure can contribute to empowerment, particularly but not only for women, sexual minorities and people living with HIV/AIDS, who may have been subject to social expectations that sexual pleasure is not for them. The pleasures of safer sex can also be promoted to reduce HIV/AIDS transmission and improve health. These are important ends. However, it would be sad to reduce sexual pleasure to a means of reaching development goals. Sexual pleasure can be wonderful in itself, and indeed it can be argued that people have a right to seek such pleasures, and that an enabling environment should be created for them to do so.

Knerr, W. and Philpott, A. (2009) 'Promoting Safer Sex Through Pleasure: Lessons from 15 countries', *Development* 52.1: 95–100, doi:10.1057/dev.2008.79

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200879a.html

The pursuit of pleasure is one of the primary reasons people have sex; and sex is the most common way people contract HIV worldwide. Yet information about how to have (or deliver) pleasurable sex and stay healthy are largely missing from health resources and HIV prevention campaigns. Knerr and Philpott explore how 'erotophobia' in the health and development sectors is hindering effective safer sex promotion. They highlight best practices from *The Global Mapping of Pleasure, 2nd Edition*, a collection of case studies on pleasure and safer sex communication from countries and contexts around the world.

Jolly, S. (2010) 'Pleasure and Empowerment: Connections and disconnections', *Development* 53.2: 227–231

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v53/n2/full/dev201031a.html

Can we reclaim sexual pleasure from the grip of the market and influence the terms on which the market engages with pleasure? Jolly proposes a political perspective on sexuality which challenges the structures and ideologies that generate guilt and shame, making pleasure more accessible to some groups than others.

Sharma, J. (2010) *Bringing Together Pleasure and Politics: Sexuality Workshops in Rural India*, IDS Practice Paper 6, Brighton: IDS

www.ids.ac.uk/idspublication/bringing-together-pleasure-and-politics-sexuality-workshops-in-rural-india

Summary of this paper

www.ids.ac.uk/files/dmfile/RsPP61.pdf

What are the linkages between sexuality and violence against women – beyond sexual violence? Do poor rural women want to talk about sex? What does it mean to take a political approach to sexuality? Should pleasure be a part of this politics? How can women's rights activists be persuaded to prioritise sexuality in their work? How do categories of caste, class, being rural or educated intersect with sexuality? These are some of the questions that Nirantar, a women's NGO working on gender and education in India, sought to answer. Nirantar ran a programme of 13 sexuality workshops with 300 participants, including both rural, Dalit women and NGO staff members. The experiences and reflections are shared in this working paper.

Jolly, S.; Cornwall, A. and Hawkins, K. (eds.) (2013) *Women, Sexuality and the Political Power of Pleasure*, London: Zed Books

<http://zedbooks.co.uk/node/11103>

Gender and development has tended to engage with sexuality only in relation to violence and ill health. Although this has been hugely important in challenging violence against women, over-emphasising these negative aspects has dovetailed with conservative ideologies that associate women's sexualities with danger and fear. On the other hand, the media, the pharmaceutical industry, and pornography more broadly celebrate the pleasures of sex in ways that can be just as oppressive, often implying that only certain types of people – young, heterosexual, able-bodied, HIV-negative people – are eligible for sexual pleasure. *Women, Sexuality and the Political Power of Pleasure* brings together challenges to these strictures and exclusions from both the South and North of the globe, with examples of activism, advocacy and programming which use pleasure as an entry point. It shows how positive approaches to pleasure and sexuality can enhance equality and empowerment for all.

Heteronormativity

Lenke, K. and Piehl M. (2009) 'Women Who have Sex with Women in the Global HIV Pandemic', *Development* 52.1: 91–94, doi:10.1057/dev.2008.77

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200877a.html

The global HIV/AIDS pandemic has pushed sexuality issues higher up the development cooperation agenda but the sexual health and rights of lesbian women and other women who have sex with women are often completely missing from sexual and reproductive health and rights policies, materials and documents. Lenke and Piehl are concerned that this underlying homophobia and heteronormativity will lead to these women being unable to enjoy their full human rights in any field.

Lind, A. (2009) 'Governing Intimacy, Struggling for Sexual Rights: Challenging Heteronormativity in the Global Development Industry', *Sexuality and Development, Development* 52.1: 34–42

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200871a.html

Institutions in the global development industry play a pivotal role in governing people's sexual and familial lives. Lind addresses how forms of intimacy are governed through national and global development institutions, both through the visibilisation and invisibilisation of lesbians, gay men and other individuals who do not fulfil prescribed gender and sexual norms in their societies. The overall aim of Lind's article is to challenge heteronormativity and gender normativity in development thought and practice.

Sharma, J. (2009) 'Reflections on the Construction of Heteronormativity', *Sexuality and Development, Development* 52.1: 52–55, doi:10.1057/dev.2008.72

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200872a.html

Sharma shares her concerns about assuming that norms govern us entirely and about constructing a binary between the 'normative' and the 'non-normative'. She argues that such a binary can be arrogant and can privilege as 'ideal' those seen as 'non-normative'. It is perhaps closer to reality and more empowering to see the play of norms as a process of negotiation rather than placing them in a hegemonic and binary framework.

He, X. (2009) 'My Fake Wedding: Stirring Up the Tongzhi Movement in China', *Sexuality and Development, Development* 52.1: 101–104, doi:10.1057/dev.2008.80

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200880a.html

He describes her activities in China working with the lesbian and gay (*tongzhi*) movement as activists challenge the conventions and traditions of heteronormativity in innovative and fun ways.

Seale, A. (2009) 'Heteronormativity and HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa', *Sexuality and Development, Development* 52.1: 84–90, doi:10.1057/dev.2008.76

www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v52/n1/full/dev200876a.html

Heteronormativity is a term yet to be widely linked to HIV and AIDS work in sub-Saharan Africa. Seale argues that a greater appreciation of heteronormativity offers an opportunity to identify effective strategies to address harmful social norms that drive HIV infection and to build synergies between work currently focused exclusively on women and girls, gender and men who have sex with men. A focus on heteronormativity in HIV work can act as a catalyst to the coalition-building needed for accelerated HIV prevention activism in Africa.

Khan, S. and Jolly, S. (2010) *Sex, Gender and Development: Challenging Heteronormativity*, Brighton: IDS

www.ids.ac.uk/files/dmfile/challengingheteronormativity.pdf

If development really did justice to the diversity of people's social and sexual identities, livelihoods and living arrangements, how would it be different to the approaches we see today? What would be done differently? How can practitioners, activists, academics and policy actors concerned with challenging oppressive gender and sexuality norms work together to loosen development's 'straightjacket'? This photo booklet offers insights on these questions with a range of quotes from activists, theorists and international organisations. These include analyses of existing sex and gender norms, how the development industry colludes with these, and alternative ways of thinking and acting on these issues.

Blogs and news items

Wood, S. (February 2013) *A Class Act: Interrogating Privilege, Development and Sexual Rights*

<http://participationpower.wordpress.com/2013/02/20/a-class-act-interrogating-privilege-development-and-sexual-rights/>

In this blog post, Wood argues that at a time of widening inequalities across the globe, discussions around sexuality and development have increasingly ignored the role of class and power. The trivialising of sexuality as an object of development concern can frequently disguise conservative ideologies masquerading as evidence and the regulation of non-normative sexualities.

Wood, S. (January 2013) *Julie Burchill, Silo Mentalities and International (Trans)gender Equality*

<http://participationpower.wordpress.com/2013/01/22/julie-burchill-silo-mentalities-and-international-transgender-equality-2/>

Transgender and transsexual people remain on the front line of the global struggle for sexual equality, more readily visible and by their very existence problematising received wisdom about fixed gender identities. Their invisibility within the broader 'gay equality' agenda lends credence to the argument that the onwards march of the gay rights movement often leaves gender inequality untroubled in its wake. Wood argues against a retreat by those engaged in gender and sexual rights into separate silos and calls for an intersectional analysis of these overlapping forms of oppression.

Wood, S. (February 2012) *Challenging Attempts to Silence Civil Society in Uganda*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/challenging-attempts-to-silence-civil-society-in-uganda

A conference organised by Freedom and Roam Uganda (FARUG), a campaign lobbying for the recognition of same-sex relationships, was ordered to close by the State Minister for Ethics and Integrity, Simon Lokodo, who threatened force against participants unless they dispersed. To support colleagues experiencing similar situations, Wood argues that we need a nuanced, collective strategy that continues to build diplomatic support internationally for the human rights of all citizens, coupled with support on the ground for those NGOs with a proven track record of working with marginalised and vulnerable communities. International pressure should be available as a tool at the disposal of southern communities and exercised as their strategic political needs dictate.

Wood, S. (December 2011) *Clinton and LGBT Rights: Whose Voice Really Matters?*

<http://participationpower.wordpress.com/2011/12/07/clinton-and-lgbt-rights-whose-voice-really-matters/>

At an event in Geneva celebrating Human Rights Day, Hillary Clinton, the US Secretary of State, gave a speech in which she stated clearly that, 'gay rights are human rights, and human rights are gay rights'. There is a need for countries like the US to match their resolve with new financial resources to support the strengthening of legal NGOs, women's groups, sexual and reproductive rights organisations, LGBT organisations, human rights groups and advocacy campaigns that are committed to sexual rights and human rights. Wood explores some of the complexities of the politics of donor interventions in this area.

Wood, S. (October 2011) *Sexuality, Development and Continued Colonialism?*

<http://participationpower.wordpress.com/2011/11/03/sexuality-development-and-continued-colonialism/>

In light of debates within the UK around aid conditionality attached to LGBT equality, Wood suggests that this seemingly progressive stance reinforces the worst kind of colonialism, repackaged for the twenty-first century. Instead, he advocates listening to the lived experience of those campaigning for equality, pledging solidarity and applying pressure in line with the political strategies of those on the ground.

Khanna, A. (October 2011) *Aid Conditionality and the Limits of a Politics of Sexuality*

<http://participationpower.wordpress.com/2011/10/31/aid-conditionality-and-the-limits-of-a-politics-of-sexuality/>

The withholding of aid from countries with homophobic policies puts the idea of 'sexuality' as political object at stake and perpetrates a racialised discourse of difference that highlights the colonial continuities in 'development'. Khanna contends that the limits of an LGBT politics reduces the queer agenda to simply demanding a space within the structures of heteronormativity and can lead to the appropriation of the LGBT rights discourse by right-wing, racist 'homonationalism'.

Hawkins, K. (May 2011) *IDS Speaks up on International Day Against Homophobia*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/ids-speaks-up-on-international-day-against-homophobia

Responding to the International Day Against Homophobia (IDAHO), IDS interviewed Dennis Altman, Professor of Politics and Director of the Institute for Human Security at LaTrobe University in Melbourne. He suggested that the development sector needs to become much more imaginative and diverse in how it sees development rather than assuming that everybody is going to fit into this one, fairly traditional, family structure.

Hawkins, K. (February 2011) *Love was in the Air*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/love-was-in-the-air

To mark Valentine's Day, the IDS Sexuality and Development Programme and the UK Department for International Development (DFID) launched an exhibition that demonstrated that sexuality matters for development. The exhibition, hosted at DFID in London, provides a powerful argument in support of why scholars, practitioners and policymakers should pay more attention to their everyday work.

Hawkins, K. (December 2010) *The Right to Pleasure on World AIDS Day*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/the-right-to-pleasure-on-world-aids-day

On World AIDS Day, IDS sexuality researchers reiterated their call for development agencies to move beyond a negative approach to sexuality and to recognise people's sexual rights and the power of pleasure as a force for change.

Jolly, S. (May 2010) *IDS Celebrates International Day Against Homophobia*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/ids-celebrates-international-day-against-homophobia

On International Day Against Homophobia, Jolly explores what development can learn from queer movements with reference to her work on gender in China.

Cornwall, A. (December 2009) *World AIDS Day: Uganda's New Anti-Homosexuality Bill Violates Human Rights*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/world-aids-day-uganda-s-new-anti-homosexuality-bill-violates-human-rights

Writing on World AIDS Day, Cornwall argues that to be able to access services, including treatment for HIV, people need to be able to enjoy certain rights and freedoms and that it is a violation of human rights to deny people this access. The Ugandan 'Anti-Homosexuality Bill' was at this time being read for the first time in parliament. Cornwall argues that Britain, as the original architect of the discriminatory laws that remain on the statute books in so many of its former colonies, has an important role to play in ensuring that British aid does not abet regimes of this kind in such flagrant abuses of human rights.

Jolly, S. (December 2009) *Why Talk About Pleasure?*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/why-talk-about-pleasure

People who work on gender and development talk a great deal about women as victims of sexual violence. Action is urgently needed to prevent sexual violence against women. However, if we only talk about violence we reinforce stereotypes of women as passive and powerless. This is one of the insights from a workshop held at IDS on 'Pleasure and Women's Empowerment'. This news item provides more details about the meeting and some examples of positive programming in this area.

Hawkins, K. (July 2009) *Legal Victory for Sexual Rights Advocates*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/legal-victory-for-sexual-rights-advocates

Sexual rights advocates around the world celebrated the overturning of Section 377 of the Indian penal code. This article explains how it happened and why it is important.

Jolly, S. (May 2009) *Why is Development Work so Straight?*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/why-is-development-work-so-straight

This story marks International Day Against Homophobia. Jolly asks how can development work become less 'straight and narrow'? She argues that we need to take a critical look at our research, programmes and policies to see who we are excluding, and start to change that. We need to listen to and support sexual rights activists locally and internationally to make sure that our work combats marginalisation and inequality instead of the contrary.

Hawkins, K. (March 2009) *Can Someone Tell me How Babies are Made?*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/can-someone-tell-me-how-babies-are-made

Despite a resurgence of interest in improving maternal health, Hawkins discovers that to make maternal health politically palatable, it seems that pregnancy is being increasingly divorced from its root cause. She argues for further consideration of how sexuality and sexual rights can relate to maternal health, including a focus on the choices and wellbeing of women living with HIV, the need to tackle STIs like syphilis, tackling gender-based violence and the consideration of the needs and rights of sexual minorities.

Knerr, W. (October 2008) *Sex, Pleasure and HIV*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/sex-pleasure-and-hiv

Knerr reports back from the International AIDS Conference where the Pleasure Project worked hard to raise the profile of work on safe sex and pleasure. She argues that until recently, there has been little or no mention of the inter-relationship of sex, desire and pleasure with HIV at international AIDS conferences. This is despite the fact that HIV is spread primarily through sex, and that sexual pleasure is a highly significant, if not primary, motivating factor for sexual behaviour.

Cornwall, A. (September 2008) *Democracy for all? The Importance of Recognising Sexuality and Sexual Rights*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/democracy-for-all-the-importance-of-recognising-sexuality-and-sexual-rights

Democracy is about more than elections. It is about people being able to live their lives and play a part in their communities without fear of abuse, discrimination and exclusion. Cornwall argues that in many parts of the world, the most basic of democratic rights continue to be denied to those who do not conform to dominant gender and sexual norms. A series of IDS-sponsored papers have addressed the question of what it takes to enable people with non-normative sexualities to exercise their democratic citizenship and claim their rights.

Cornwall, A. (July 2008) *Breaking the Silence: Making Explicit the Connections between Sexuality and Development*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/breaking-the-silence-making-explicit-the-connections-between-sexuality-and-development

Cornwall reports back on the launch of the Sida Concept Paper *Sexuality: A Missing Dimension in Development*.

Glyde, J. (April 2008) *Sexuality and the Development Industry*

www.ids.ac.uk/news/sexuality-and-the-development-industry

IDS hosted a workshop from 3–5 April 2008 examining how sexuality is framed and influenced by international aid and the development industry, and looking for more creative and constructive means of engagement. How can heteronormativity be challenged? How does the HIV/AIDS industry presume and create identities around men who have sex with men, sex workers, promiscuous husbands and innocent wives, and with what effects? Where is funding being spent? What are the effects of conditionalities, for example the US HIV/AIDS funding that imposes conditionalities around abortion, sex work and abstinence? Glyde provides more detail on discussions.

Esplen, E. (February 2008) *Realising Sexual Rights in Africa: Towards Inclusive Approaches*
www.ids.ac.uk/news/realising-sexual-rights-in-africa-towards-inclusive-approaches

From 4–7 February 2008, 400 participants from 32 countries came together for the third Africa Conference on Sexual Health and Rights in Abuja, Nigeria, to discuss this year's theme: 'sexuality, poverty and accountability in Africa'. Esplen provides an overview of discussions and laments the lack of discussion about the sexual rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people on the continent.

Jolly, S. (April 2008) *Sexuality and the Development Industry Workshop*
www.ids.ac.uk/news/sexuality-and-the-development-industry-workshop

How do development interventions impact on people's sexualities? And how can development agencies move towards more constructive engagement with sexuality? These were the topics of discussion in IDS from 3–5 April 2008, for more than 70 workshop participants from a range of activist groups, NGOs, universities, government bodies and donor organisations worldwide. This web story provides a summary of their discussions.

Jolly, S. (November 2007) *BRIDGE wins Publication of the Year 2007 at the Erotic Awards*
www.ids.ac.uk/news/news-at-ids-bridge-wins-publication-of-the-year-2007-at-the-erotic-awards

Has all the joy gone out of sex? Too often development interventions treat sexuality as a problem to do with violence, ill health and population control, yet sexuality can also bring pleasure, affirmation and joy. BRIDGE's 'Cutting Edge Pack on Gender and Sexuality', designed to inspire thinking on this question, also inspired the judges at the Erotic Awards.



First published by the Institute of Development Studies in October 2013
© Institute of Development Studies 2013
ISBN: 978-1-78118-134-8

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Hawkins, K. (Ed.) (2013) *Sexuality and Development: An Annotated Bibliography*, Brighton: IDS

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The IDS Sexuality and Development Programme is a reaction to the inadequate manner in which sexuality is approached by the development sector. Sexuality is not taken seriously: it is considered a frivolous, trivial issue that doesn't relate to the more important aspects of development such as poverty. This is something that needs to change. This eclectic bibliography reflects global thinking on sexuality, bringing together texts on poverty, pleasure, gender, heteronormativity, rights, and a lot more! The ideas it contains will inspire you to think differently about sexuality and development whether you are an activist, academic, practitioner, policymaker, or something else entirely.