



# Centre for Cultures of Reproduction, Technologies and Health



# Annual Report

# 2017



[www.sussex.ac.uk/corth](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/corth)



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# Welcome to CORTH

Established in 2014, our centre provides an intellectual space for intensive research, critical thinking and the development of an interdisciplinary body of scholarship on reproductive and health cultures. Framed by a specific interest in the processes of power and addressing health inequities, we promote research on the social, medical, public health, legal, and moral lenses through which reproductive health is perceived, produced, concretised and articulated (for instance, through new policies, engagement with new technologies, or new forms of social relations in reproduction).

With our unique focus on cultural-ethnographic perspectives, the centre facilitates knowledge transfer partnerships between anthropologists, social and human

scientists, health researchers, medical professionals, practitioners, legal activists and policy makers working internationally on critical issues in global maternal, sexual reproductive health (SRH), emerging technologies and

health and human rights. A specific aim is to facilitate international dialogue on 'Southern' analytic models and practices.

CORTH fosters a strong research environment for its international and home doctoral or postdoctoral students and through hosting visiting researchers and fellows, we seek to develop collaborative projects, produce quality research outputs and connect Sussex faculty and graduate students to key thinkers and policy makers in the field of reproductive and sexual health research.

## The CORTH team

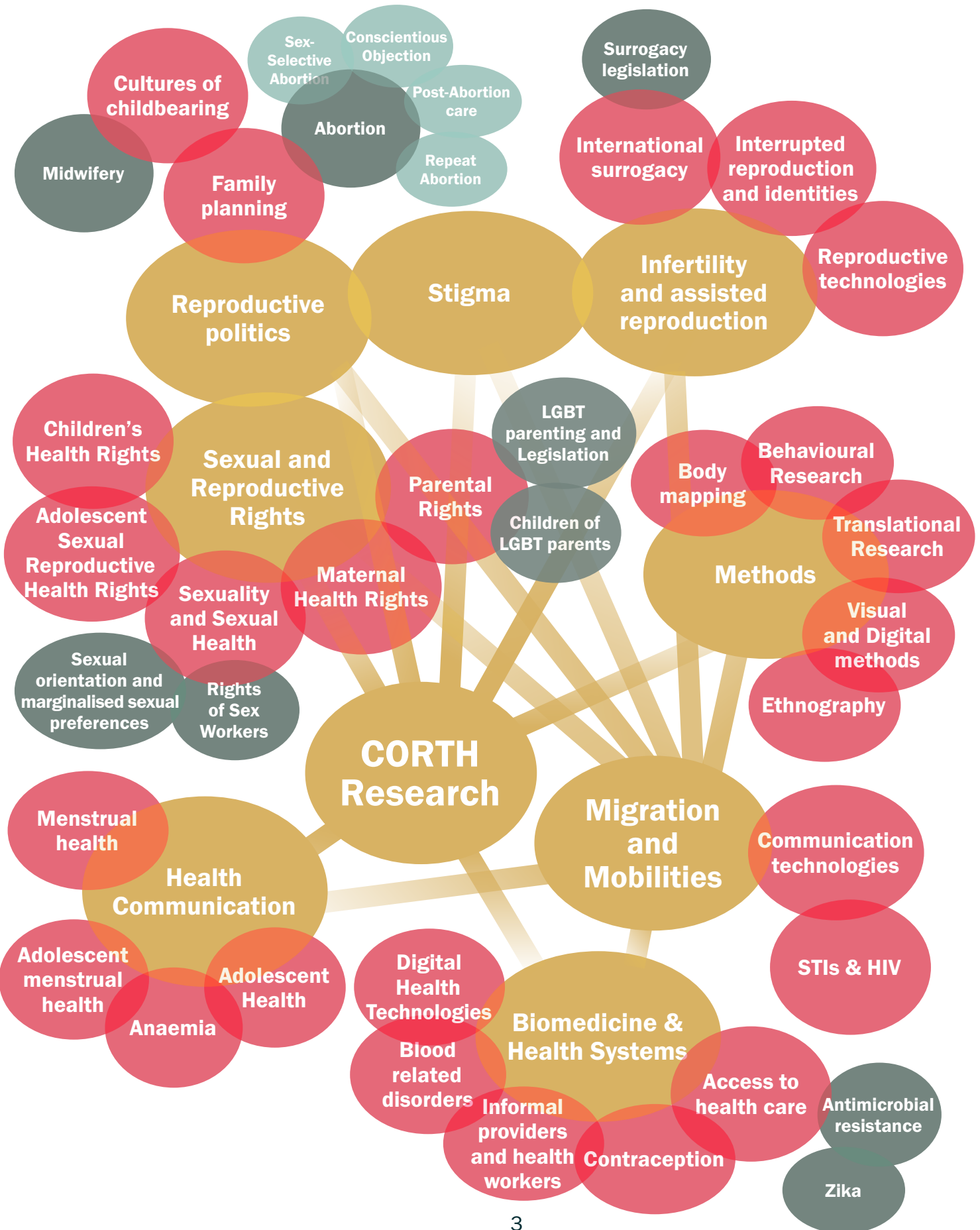
We have over 125 members including 35 Sussex faculty, 32 international senior research associates and advisors, 21 external members and visitors, and 38 internal and external postdoctoral and doctoral members. The CORTH centre is directed by Maya Unnithan, Professor of Social and Medical Anthropology in the School of Global Studies. Maya leads CORTH with her fellow co-directors, Hayley MacGregor, Research Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, Carrie Llewellyn, Reader in Applied Behavioural Medicine (Brighton and Sussex Medical School), and Maria Moscati, Lecturer in Family Law (School of Law, Politics and Sociology).

# Aims and Objectives

- To bring **culture, political economy and discursive power frameworks** to the heart of maternal, sexual and reproductive healthcare scholarship, practice, policy making and implementation.
  - To bring **researchers and non-academic partners** to address and have **policy impact** in the critical domains of reproductive, sexual and maternal health, especially with reference to **health inequalities, technology regulation and population policies**.
  - To bring together **stakeholders in reproductive health research, practice and policy globally**, i.e., across northern and southern nations, through forging connections across a number of networks within each context, including: state and civil society actors, with a specific aim of engendering South-South exchange; to design **collaborative research and policy impact projects** with the partners identified in these networks; and to promote the work of researchers in civil society organisations.
  - To translate and communicate ethnographic research methods for the understanding and use of health providers, public health practitioners and policy makers; to hold **training workshops** in ethnographic methods for health researchers; to **bridge the methodological gap between healthcare policy, quantitative health research and ethnography**.
  - To gain **large programme and centre funding** to house active researchers and visitors, sustain international networks, and establish Sussex as a **global hub for research and dissemination on sexual reproductive health, maternal health and health rights**. To bring together a cross-section of Sussex academics working on sexual reproductive health issues across the university network to further enable **international links**.
- Values: interdisciplinary, critical thinking, collaborative research*

# Research Themes

Since our inception, key themes continue to develop as areas of shared interest and an impetus for new projects







# Research Highlights

Our research portfolio is extending. Here we report on selected current projects

## Anti-microbial Research

Hayley MacGregor is an investigator in a grant on drug resistant Tuberculosis in South Africa, funding under the ESRC-led 'behaviour' theme of the RCUK cross-council calls on antimicrobial resistance. The research will be for four years and is led from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, with Karina Kielmann from Queen Margaret University leading the anthropological component. She is a CORTH associate.

*For more information contact Hayley MacGregor, [H.MacGregor@ids.ac.uk](mailto:H.MacGregor@ids.ac.uk)*

## Behavioural Interventions and Sexual Behaviour

CORTH governor Carrie Llewellyn currently leads work in applied behavioural research in the field of sexual health, in particular related to developing interventions with marginalised

sexual orientation groups to reduce risks of sexually transmitted infections and HIV, two NIHR Health Technology Assessment grants currently support this work. This is in collaboration with UCL and The University of Huddersfield.

*For more information contact Carrie Llewellyn, [C.D.Llewellyn@bsms.ac.uk](mailto:C.D.Llewellyn@bsms.ac.uk)*

## Zika-Newton Grant

*Building collaboration for action ethnography on care, disability and health policy, for women and caretakers of Zika virus effected children in Pernambuco.*

CORTH is centrally involved in an Newton Institutional Links grant for work on Zika virus in Brazil that will be led by Hayley MacGregor. This is a two year project that will involve a strengthening of links with the FAGES centre led by Professor Scott Parry in the anthropology department at the University of Pernambuco. Maya Unnithan, Hayley



Migration research  
at a rural location in  
Sri Lanka.



SAUIDA ALY

MacGregor and Alex Shankland will visit Brazil for a workshop in September and in the final year of the project we will host the Brazilian researchers at Sussex.

For more information contact Hayley MacGregor, [H.MacGregor@ids.ac.uk](mailto:H.MacGregor@ids.ac.uk) and Maya Unnithan, [m.unnithan@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:m.unnithan@sussex.ac.uk)

## Son preference and sex selection against females in the UK: evidence, causes, trends, implications

CORTH director Maya Unnithan is going to work as co-investigator on an ESRC Standard Grant, *Son preference and sex selection against females in the UK: evidence, causes, trends, implications*, with PI Sylvie Dubuc (Geography and Environmental Science department, Reading) from April 2017–2020.

For more information contact Maya Unnithan, [m.unnithan@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:m.unnithan@sussex.ac.uk)

## Biographical Study of Abortion Act

Professor of Law at Kent Law School and CORTH associate, Sally Sheldon has been awarded more than £0.5m to conduct a unique two-year biographical study of the Abortion Act. The grant of £512,000 has been awarded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) to Professor Sheldon for a research project called 'The Abortion Act (1967): a Biography'. The project will begin in May 2016 and its findings will be launched at the Houses of Parliament on 27 April 2018, the fiftieth anniversary of the Abortion Act coming into force.

More information about the project can be found at: <https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/cisor-news/2016/01/15/professor-sally-sheldon-awarded-0-5m-for-biographical-study-of-abortion-act/>

For more information contact Sally Sheldon, [S.Sheldon@kent.ac.uk](mailto:S.Sheldon@kent.ac.uk)

## The Political Economy of Post-Disaster Maternal and Infant Health during the Lengthy Reconstruction Period

Associate Professor and CORTH member Jan Brunson (University of Hawaii) has been awarded a research fund by the Quick Response Grant from the Natural Hazards Center at the University of Colorado. She will be writing an analysis of the long-term effects of natural disasters on maternal and infant health based on fieldwork she conducted in Nepal on the six-month anniversary of the 2015 Nepal earthquakes.

For further information contact Jan Brunson, [jbrunson@hawaii.edu](mailto:jbrunson@hawaii.edu)

## ESRC-Funded Study on Egg Donation

The newly opened Centre for Reproductive Research Group, (DeMontfort University, Leicester), affiliated with CORTH, has a new ESRC-funded study on egg donation in the UK, Spain and Belgium. Donated eggs are now used in over 25,000 IVF treatment cycles in Europe, creating over 7000 babies per year, yet little is known about the motivations, decision-making and experiences of women who provide their eggs for use in infertility treatment, particularly in the European context. The aim of this study is to explore the social, political, economic and moral configuration of egg donation in the UK, Belgium and Spain.

Further information can be found at: <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/research/research-faculties-and-institutes/health-and-life-sciences/reproduction-research-group/egg-donation-in-the-uk-belgium-and-spain-an-interdisciplinary-study.aspx>

Or contact Nicky Hudson, [NHudson@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:NHudson@dmu.ac.uk)



Learning to make ActionAid's sanitary kits.

WWW.ACTIONAID.ORG.UK

# Knowledge Exchange

CORTH members seek to translate our research into real life policy and practice. Our members are actively engaged in a number of knowledge and experience sharing activities

## 'The Big Picture – Proposed Surrogacy Law: Does it address all concerns?'

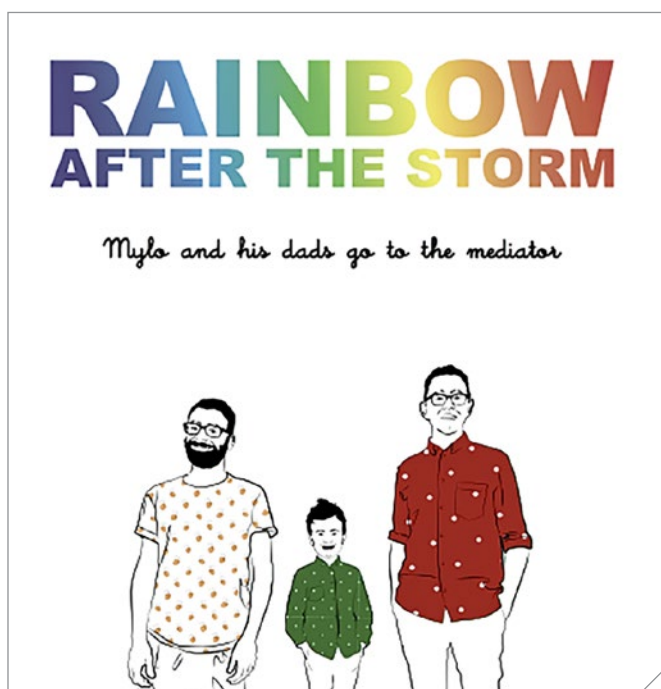
Founder and Chairperson of The Anthropos India Foundation, and CORTH member, Sunita Reddy has recently been on a discussion panel, discussing the new surrogacy legislation in India. The video of this discussion can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qD7EwHIB6HQ>

The Anthropos India Foundation is one of CORTH's Network Partners. We have been working together on issues such as surrogacy, and we are also discussing collaborations around medical pluralism in India.

## Rainbow after the Storm: Mylo and his Dads go to the Mediator

CORTH Governor, Dr. Maria Moscati (LPS) has written a children's book about same-sex couple mediation which can be found at: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/corth/documents/moscati-children-families-mediation.pdf>

*'We believe that families are various all over the world; family break ups occur everywhere; homosexuality, bisexuality, transsexualism exist in all types of society, and children and their families have RIGHTS, are EQUAL and deserve RESPECT for who they are, wherever they are!'*



Maria Moscati's book on family meditation

## Talking About Birth Matters

CORTH joined the panel at The Brighton Fringe Festival on 27th May 2017. The panellists explored why it can be difficult to talk about matters of childbirth and what we can do to make it better. This event was a lively, accessible discussion between audience and panel with participants from Oneworldbirth, Psychology Sussex, Royal College of Midwives, NHS and University of Sussex.

## Peruvian Abortion Law

Doctoral Forum Member Rebecca Williams, a former MA Gender and Development Student, has written an excellent blog about abortion laws in Peru, and her experiences of this issue whilst working in Peru. The blog is available at: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/corth/documents/becca-williams-corth-blog.pdf>



REBECCA WILLIAMS

## Speaking about Fertility Treatments

At a recent seminar, Professor of Women's Health and CORTH member, Susan Bewley, King's College London, speaks about fertility treatments. For those of you who would like to know more about this topic, her presentation slides entitled 'It takes a village to raise a child: Preconception and ART imperative', are available below, as well as a news article she has written on the subject.

Presentation: [It takes a village to raise a child: Preconception and ART imperatives \[PDF 2.31MB\]](#)

News article: [Shock! Horror! Or business as usual? \[PDF 282.77KB\]](#)

## India's Champions: Exploring Determinants of Young Women's Empowerment in Rajasthan

Professor Shobhita Rajagopal from the Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur, and a senior associated CORTH member, has published a report entitled 'India's Champions: Exploring Determinants of Young Women's Empowerment in Rajasthan'. The research project aimed to





Wall poster at JNU campus, Delhi, India.

determine how female college students from marginalised, low-literacy families across India managed to successfully overcome economic, social and cultural barriers to girls' education and progress to tertiary level.

You can read the report here: [India's Champions: Exploring Determinants of Young Women's Empowerment in Rajasthan \[PDF 977.53KB\]](#)

## Communication in Labour

Dr Tanja Staehler, CORTH member and Reader in Philosophy (University of Sussex) has created a training module to help midwives communicate with women and their partners during labour. This was launched on the Royal College of Midwives i-learn platform in November, 2016, and has been completed with certificate by 150 midwives since then. Tanja drew inspiration from the philosophical viewpoints of thinkers such as Sartre and Heidegger to create the online course. She also gave a talk for CORTH, 'Communication during Childbirth', on 23rd March 2017 at the University of Sussex to talk about the online module.

Further information is available at: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/internal/bulletin/staff/2016-2017/04112016/helping-midwives-communicate> or contact Tanja Staehler, [t.staehler@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:t.staehler@sussex.ac.uk)

## Glass Bead Game Podcast Series, School of Global Studies (University of Sussex)

Will Hood (AnimalMonday) has made an audio recording, in collaboration with Maya Unnithan, about reflections on abortion across the global North and South.

The purpose of the Glass Bead Game Podcast series is to create a platform by which academic research can engage with an audience through people led narrative. This will be released in the near future at: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/global/about/glassbeadgame>

## The BIRTH Debate

CORTH postdoctoral member Ben Kasstan has written a review of the BIRTH debate for Medicine Anthropology Theory. 'BIRTH was a four-day festival, held at the Royal Exchange Manchester on 19–22 October 2016, that seized performance and art as platforms to engage the public with the historically contingent, social, political, and economic constraints that surround reproduction, and maternal and infant health. Seven female writers were commissioned to research the conditions that entangle birth in their respective countries and transform them into highly engaging performances for public debate.' The full article can be found here: <http://medanthrotheory.org/read/7312/birth-seven-countries>





# Workshops, Talks and Seminars

CORTH is now well established since its launch in November 2014 featuring and organising a number of conferences, workshops, talks and seminars

Read reports, view pictures, and listen to podcasts on our website: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/corth/newsandevents/centreevents>



## Interdisciplinary Workshop: Framing International Surrogacy

25th July 2016

(Family, Kinship and Relativity Research Group and CORTH)

The International Workshop brought the different disciplines of law, sociology, anthropology and public health together to explore the topic of surrogacy from different perspectives, such as the legal context, cultural and gender issues and how international surrogacy differs from domestic surrogacy. The workshop booklet summarises the presentations and the background of speakers, and there are PowerPoint presentations and links to speaker's personal websites, so that you can find out more about the topic, as well as the work of those who presented.

<https://www.sussex.ac.uk/webteam/gateway/file.php?name=framing-international-surrogacy-workshop--speakers-and-presentations.pdf&site=447>

## CORTH Research in Progress Workshop

27th June 2016

The CORTH Research in Progress Workshop on 27th June 2016 had presentations from five doctoral students talking about their current research. The topics that were discussed ranged from sexuality to migrant health and obesity to thinking about cognitive perspectives. The day included presentations from research activists and those who are applying their research in everyday contexts such as a Brighton based NGO whose work in the city seeks to ensure excluded people overcome barriers to healthcare.

The summary of the workshop is available at: <https://www.sussex.ac.uk/webteam/gateway/file.php?name=27th-june-workshop-summary.pdf&site=447>

## New Health Communication Technologies Workshop

7th November 2016

(Brighton and Sussex Medical School, IDS and CORTH) Clinics for sexually transmitted infections (STI) aim to support people who have infections to contact and notify

sexual partners, as well as providing diagnosis and treatment. Informing and treating sexual partners reduces the risk of re-infection within a relationship, and limits onward transmission to others. With the transformation of communication and diagnostic technologies, the ways clinics talk to patients and partners about "partner notification" has changed. In this interdisciplinary workshop we explored the social, ethical and legal implications of emerging technologies for patients, partners and health services.

A summary of the workshop and speakers is available at: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/corth/documents/corth-new-health-communication-technologies-071116--programme.pdf>



## 'Fertile Disorder: Spirit Possession and its Provocation of the Modern'

15th November 2016

(CORTH and Anthropology)

Dr. Kalpana Ram (Macquarie University, Australia) visited the University of Sussex as a CORTH Visitor. She presented her research on spirit possession in a joint

CORTH/Anthropology department event and then met with CORTH's Doctoral Forum. In the doctoral forum Dr Ram focused on the ways in which social scientists can draw on phenomenology to unpack inherited modern dichotomies that are often used to research subaltern persons' experiences of agency, including those of women's fertility and health. She provided a rich overview of phenomenology as a methodological and theoretical approach and the advantages it holds over critical post-structuralist styles of feminism, referring to the context of rural women in Tamil Nadu, India, while offering ways to link her material to other geographic and empirical contexts.

The summary of this event, written by Dr. Sajida Ally, is available at: <https://www.sussex.ac.uk/webteam/gateway/file.php?name=kalpana-ram-doctoral-forum-summary-by-sajida-ally.pdf&site=447>



## Whose Future? Skills for the 21st century in low and middle income countries

17th November 2016

(CIE, CIRCY and CORTH)

CORTH Doctoral Member Padmini Iyer (Young Lives, Oxford), returned to Sussex to talk about the Young Lives project with Dr Caine Rolleston (Institute of Education, UCL). Young Lives is a longitudinal study of child poverty, which has followed 12,000 children in Ethiopia, India, Peru and Vietnam over the past 15 years. This presentation provided an introduction to key findings that have emerged from the study. This involved a discussion of how learning quality can be conceptualised and measured at secondary level, particularly in relation to the current focus on the development of '21st century skills' and the relevance of this agenda within low and middle-income countries.

## Luce Irigaray Book Launch of To Be Born: Genesis of a New Human Being

27th February 2017

(Philosophy/ CORTH workshop)

Luce Irigaray a prominent author in contemporary French feminism and Continental philosophy was at Sussex to launch her new book *To be Born*. An interdisciplinary thinker who works between philosophy, psychoanalysis, and linguistics, Luce proposed nothing less than a new conception of being as well as a means to ensure its individual and relational development from birth.

## CORTH 'Meet and Greet' Doctoral Forum

8th March 2017

This was an interesting and lively forum held on International Women's day. Doctoral forum members presented on their research, new members were introduced and finally we discussed some future events to organise at CORTH. From this we compiled a summary of our doctoral members' work which is available at: <https://www.sussex.ac.uk/webteam/gateway/file.php?name=report--corth-doctoral-forum-08-03-17.pdf&site=447>

## 2nd Annual Global Health and Development Conference

18th & 19th March 2017

A CORTH supported undergraduate event, the Annual Corbis Global Health and Development Conference, encompassed discussions and expert insight on contemporary global health matters and inspiring action on the local, national and global stage. Following the success of the inaugural event themed, 'Practical Solutions in Effective Healthcare for All' in April 2016, Corbis decided to address critical global health issues marginalised by mainstream and established agendas, with a focus on Nutrition, Mental Health and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH).

## 'The Translational Urge in the English Health Economy'

28th April 2017

Professor Chris McKeivitt (King's college London) presented on the theme of Translational Research. Translational research refers to the goal of bringing scientific discoveries made at the laboratory 'bench' to the 'bedside', where biomedical

treatments are administered to patients. In this seminar, Chris outlined his programme of research investigating the messiness of entangled organisations and work places where translational research is conducted, the multiple repositioning of patients in the emerging bioeconomy, and implications for the practice of embedded ethnography.



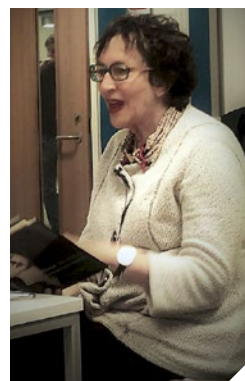
Protest to ensure rights to generic medicine, Jaipur, India.

MAYA UNNITHAN

## 'Reproductive Politics in India: Giving the Body a Voice'

17th May 2017

Professor Maya Unnithan's inaugural professorial lecture explored 'Reproductive Politics in India: Giving the Body a Voice'. She discussed how family-making and childbearing is undertaken in a globalising India where highly regulated population policies and strongly patriarchal caste ideologies co-exist with advanced reproductive technologies and rights-based maternal healthcare development programmes. In the lecture Maya drew on long term ethnography and accounts of families in peri-urban Rajasthan to show how the conflicting reproductive demands of the state, kin and family are navigated in terms of notions of self and entitlements. She focused on the politics of reproduction, fertility, and the body giving a very different perspective on the power of institutions in India from how it is normally studied and understood.



## Abortion Privacy/Abortion Secrecy: What's the Difference and Why Does it Matter?

7th June 2017

At an event co-sponsored by CORTH and the Centre for Gender Studies, Professor Carol Sanger of Columbia Law School spoke on her new book *About Abortion: Terminating Pregnancy in 21st Century America* (Harvard 2017). She raised the question of why women, or certainly women in the United States, do not discuss abortion at the level of personal experience. Is it a matter of personal privacy, or is something darker at work? Sanger proposed that abortion silence has consequences not only for women who fear the stigma disclosure might bring about, but for public discussion of abortion. This has led to a co-opting of the public narrative about who has abortions and why. At a moment in U.S. history when abortion's legality has been put on the chopping block, Sanger discussed the progression from private to public to political discussion, and why the matter is so crucial right now.



Matrilineal family of a traditional birth attendant, Northeast India.



# CORTH Graduate Journeys

We are proud to feature the exciting work undertaken by our graduate members

LENKA ZÁHRÁDKOVÁ



**Bronwen Gillespie**  
(Previously Global Studies, University of Sussex)

In January 2017 Bronwen completed the final evaluation of a European project led by Doctors of the World, ‘8 NGO’s for migrants/refugees’ health in

11 countries’, regarding access to public health services for vulnerable migrants. This involved field visits and data collection in refugee camps and centres in three countries and subsequent analysis of project impact. She is currently working on mapping actors and institutions working in gender equity and the situation of women and girls in Cuba, for Global Affairs Canada, and will soon start a research project in Guatemala on locally available options to help reduce child malnutrition for a non-governmental organisation working with the Guatemalan Ministry of Health, both as an independent consultant.

**Martha Newson** (Anthropology, University of Oxford)

Martha, doctoral associate and former coordinator of CORTH, has started as a postdoc on a large ERC grant at the Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology, University of Oxford. As part of the grant, titled ‘Divergent

modes of ritual, social cohesion, prosociality, and conflict’, Martha is investigating football hooliganism and radical Islam in Indonesia. Related to CORTH, she is exploring how these extreme social identities may affect reproduction in both men and women.

**Lenka Zahrádková** (Global Studies visitor and Charles University, Prague)

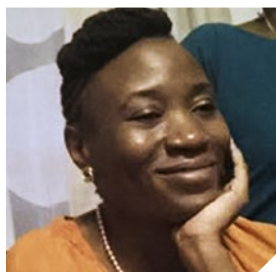
Lenka is a visiting PhD student from the Czech Republic (Department of Ethnology, Charles University in Prague). At Sussex she is supervised by Maya Unnithan. Lenka is interested in childbirth practices across cultures, and conducted her fieldwork in Northeast India among matrilineal society of the Khasis. She focuses on reflections of matrilineality in reproductive practices of the Khasis, especially within notions of shame, kinship and gender dynamics. With background in archaeology and studies of religions, her further interests are birthing rituals – both in contemporary world and prehistory.

**Zuhra Bahman** (Global Studies, University of Sussex)

Zuhra is a new doctoral member who joined Sussex in January. Her research focuses on urban Afghan women’s experiences of maternity and reproduction and it is based on her fieldwork in Kabul. She is interested



in conceptualisations of risk, physical bodies and reproductive systems in terms of temperament of hot and cold, experience of pregnancy loss, gift exchange and visitation circles as spaces for performance and exchange of information. She plans to link her research with the wider debates around Muslim women as well as radicalisation.



**Emilomo Ogbe**  
(Reproductive Health,  
University of Ghent)

CORTH member and former Master's student at Sussex Emilomo Ogbe is currently working on the pilot phase of her PhD research on the

influence of social networks on the uptake of sexual and reproductive services among refugees and asylum seekers. Dr. Emilomo Ogbe (M.D., M.A) is a medical doctor and researcher with experience in Bioethics and Sexual and Reproductive Health programme management, policy analysis and research in West and East Africa and South East Asia. She is currently a PhD Student at the University of Ghent, where her research is focused on the influence of social networks on health decision making and utilisation of GBV services by refugees. The research combines qualitative and quantitative research methods. She is also on the ethics review board for an international sexual and reproductive health organisation.

For more information contact Emilomo Ogbe,  
[emihoms@gmail.com](mailto:emihoms@gmail.com)

**Lavinia Bertini** (Global Studies, University  
of Sussex)

Lavinia is a doctoral researcher in Medical Anthropology at the University of Sussex, School of Global Studies. Her ethnographic research investigates discourses, practices and politics of obesity management in the UK, with a focus on the NHS and public health. It foregrounds individual experiences of managing weight to understand how health professionals and weight-loss groups' leaders and participants navigate experiences and meanings of



Lavinia Bertini, MaryFrances Lukera, Sajida Ally and Martha Newson

obesity in a wider context of “war on fat”, healthism and neoliberalism. Her analysis reflects on body politics and technologies of policy as well as on social reproduction of identities linked to health, social class and gender. Lavinia has recently finished the fifteen-month long fieldwork in Brighton and Hove and is now writing up her thesis.

**MaryFrances Lukera** (Law, Politics and  
Sociology, University of Sussex)

MaryFrances Lukera is a CORTH member and doctoral student at the University of Sussex. Her thesis is entitled 'Promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health of Sex Workers in Kenya: A Human Rights Approach'. Prior to coming to Brighton, she worked for the Federation of Women Lawyers in Kenya where she challenged discrimination and defended women's rights through advocacy and litigation. MaryFrances was recently one of the 'highlight' comment authors for *Legal Grounds: Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Sub-Saharan African Courts Volume III* (Godfrey Kangaude, Onyema Afulukwe, et al. Foreword by Prof. Charles G. Ngwena). This publication provides much-needed information about whether and how national courts of African countries apply constitutional and human rights to protect reproductive and sexual rights. The book is being used by the LLM/ MPhil programme on Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Africa at the University of Pretoria.

This resources is available at: <http://www.pulp.up.ac.za/legal-compilations/legal-grounds>



**Rachel Olson** (Ph.D. in  
Social Anthropology and  
Director, The Firelight  
Group)

CORTH Member Rachel Olson is involved in the project *Propelling motherhood*. *Propelling motherhood* will employ an

innovative collaborative care model to provide postpartum support training for traditional birth assistants (TBAs) in rural Uganda. The programme will train local TBAs to conduct home postpartum visits as well as act as initial contact points for postpartum women. The programme also seeks to incorporate innovative mobile health technologies (mHealth) in order to improve clinical decision support, improve measurement and accountability of the pilot programme, and increase the skills and literacy of TBAs in the programme. Utilising local TBAs will ensure personalised home care services that will transcend perceptions around seeking care outside the family circles, improve access to care, while working within the existing cultural structures.

In June Rachel is travelling to Uganda to kick off the project along with Shanti Uganda on TBA home visiting.

For more information contact Rachel Olson,  
[rachel.olson@thefirelightgroup.com](mailto:rachel.olson@thefirelightgroup.com)



# Publication Highlights

Here we provide a selection of recent publications from CORTH members

Bradley, S., **McCourt, C.**, Rayment, J., and Parmar, D. (2016) 'Disrespectful intrapartum care during facility-based delivery in sub-Saharan Africa: A qualitative systematic review and thematic synthesis of women's perceptions and experiences', *Social Science & Medicine*, 169:157–170.

Brooks, H., **Llewellyn, C.D.**, Nadarzynski, T., Castilho Pelloso, F., De Souza Guilherme F., Pollard, A., and Jones C.J. (2017: in press) 'Sexual orientation disclosure in healthcare: systematic review', *British Journal of General Practice*

**De Zordo, S.**, Mishtal, J., and Anton, L. (eds.) (2017) *A Fragmented Landscape: Abortion Governance and Protest Logics in Europe*, New York: Berghahn Books

**Gillespie, B.** (2017) 'Negotiating Nutrition: Sprinkles and the state in the Peruvian Andes.' *Women's Studies International Forum*, 60:120–127

**Edelman, N., Cassell, J.**, de Visser, R., Prah, P., and Mercer, C. H. (2017) 'Can psychosocial and socio-demographic questions help identify sexual risk among heterosexually-active women of reproductive age? Evidence from Britain's third National Survey of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles (Natsal-3)', *BMC Public Health*, 17(5):1–10

**Hunt, P.** (2016) 'Interpreting the International Right to Health in a Human Rights-Based Approach to Health', *Health and Human Rights Journal*, 18(2):109-130

**Iyengar, K.**, Iyengar, S.D., and Gemzell-Danielsson, K. (2016) 'Can informal abortion provision in India transition to formal and safe services?', *Lancet Glob Health*, 4:357–8

**Iyengar, K.** and Iyengar, S.D. (2016) 'Improving access to safe abortion in a rural primary care setting in India: experience of a service delivery intervention', *Reproductive Health*, 13(1):54

**Iyer, P.** (2017) 'Due to all this fear, we're getting less freedom': young people's understandings of gender and sexual violence in New Delhi, India, *Gender and Education*, 1–18

**McCourt, C.**, Rayment, J., Rance, S., and Sandall, J. (2016) 'Place of birth and concepts of wellbeing: an analysis from two

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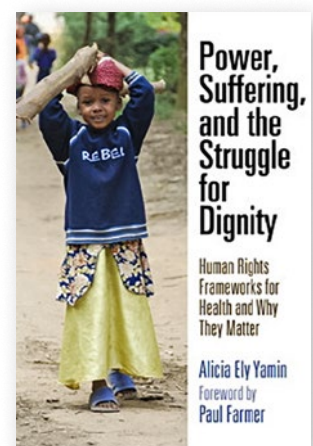
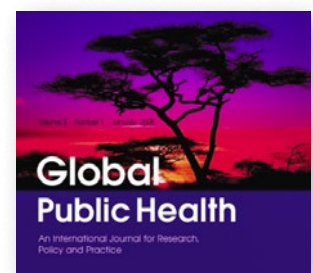
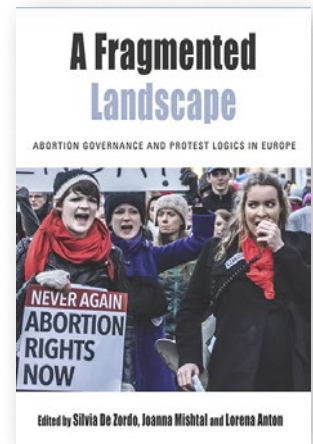
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LENKA ZÁHRADKOVÁ



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# Centre for Cultures of Reproduction, Technologies and Health

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## **Location**

The Centre for Cultures of Reproduction, Technologies and Health is part of the School of Global Studies, which is based in Arts C on the University of Sussex campus. The university is located at Falmer on the outskirts of Brighton, within easy reach of London and major international airports at Gatwick and Heathrow.

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