Dear RC49 Members, Colleagues and Friends

I wish you, your families, and beloved ones a good and healthy New Year!

Given the dramatic situation in Ukraine, Iran and other conflict zones, our Board Member Takashi Asakura from Tokyo Gakugei University, Japan, reminds us to the devastating effects of inhuman ideologies among radical regimes on peoples’ lives and mental health that can be affected for generations.

After a long time of (only) online meetings, we are looking forward very much to the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne, Australia, June 25-July 1, 2023. RC49 will host 10 sessions including 61 oral or distributed papers.

Please mind that RC49 offers travel grants for the best abstracts submitted by PhD students to one of the RC49 sessions for the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology.

Also, ISA members in good standing, active participants in the program, are eligible to apply for a registration grant. Please send you application to silvia.krumm@uni-ulm.de (RC49 program coordinator) by January 31, 2023.

However, before the big event takes place, RC49 provides the 2nd RC49 Online Symposium on January 20th 2022. Please find the preliminary program in this newsletter.

Finally, some recent academic activities by RC49 members are listed.

With very best wishes,

Silvia Krumm
RC 49 President
Mental Health in Cambodia  
Takashi Asakura, Tokyo Gakugei University

I have been working with two national teacher education colleges in Cambodia since 2019 to develop textbooks for teaching school health in elementary school teacher courses. The English version of the textbook was then printed in April 2022, and the Khmer version is currently undergoing final proofreading. Mental health was described in one of the chapters within the textbook. As is well known, during the Khmer Rouge (Pol Pot) regime, which lasted only four years, from 1976 to 1979, about 1.5 million of Cambodia's 7 million people were killed. The estimated number of deaths is not known exactly, ranging from 1.2 to 1.7 million. The experiences during the Khmer Rouge era still affect the mental health of the people. Rates of PTSD have been estimated at 7.3%, 14%, and 28.4%, depending on studies. In a survey conducted in one province, 55% reported having been victimized by violence during the Khmer Rouge era, and 53% exhibited symptoms corresponding to a diagnosis of anxiety disorder.

Even among younger generations, more than 50% of elementary, middle, and high school children reported feeling lonely more than occasionally, according to the Global School Based Health Survey 2013. More than 50% of children reported not sleeping well more than occasionally. These percentages are higher than those of children in neighboring countries Laos and Vietnam. What was surprising, moreover, was that when we surveyed students in teacher education colleges, 79% of them responded "disagree" to the question "Do you agree that most people can be trusted? More than 50% of college students felt warm relationships once a month or less. General trust and emotional social support are social determinants of health. This distrust of relationships is influenced by the deep trauma of experiencing the secret informant system during the Khmer Rouge era. Therefore, mental health services, such as consulting and receiving counseling, are also unlikely to be established. The road to mental health recovery of Cambodians is a difficult one ahead. Conflicts in Ukraine, Myanmar, and other parts of the world are bound to leave trauma in people's mental health that cannot be easily healed.
Chair: Jeremy Dixon
Session I (8-8:35pm):
  Rachael McMahon: An experience of biomedicine and mental health: narratives describing the Silenced Manifesto and Mad Studies

Session II (8:35-9:10pm):
  Sebastian Rojas-Navarro/ Samanta Alarcon-Arcos: Caring for difference: social relationships, everyday practices and children’s mental health in Chilean schools

Chair: Silvia Krumm
Session III (9:25-10:00pm):
  Gleiciane Souza: The reporting of violence against women in health and mental health services: a path to typifying suicide as femicide

Session IV (10:00-10:35):
  Gary Linn/Joaquim Matavel/Nair Teles: Innovative Research and Practice on Violence, Risk, and Mental Health in Africa and Latin America

Nashville, USA - 2pm
Venezuela Standard Time - 4pm
Bristol, UK - 8pm
Ulm, Germany - 9pm
Australian Eastern Time - 7am Saturday 21st

Zoom link for the meeting - Join Zoom Meeting https://bath-ac-uk.zoom.us/j/95215455433?pwd=a0FZcTVrb2FwNDFCc2tLd2QwdkpHdz09

Meeting ID: 952 1545 5433 Passcode: 829455

Please e-mail Jeremy Dixon at j.dixon2@bath.ac.uk if you experience any difficulties joining the meeting.
Activities of RC49 members

Lynn Tang; Department of Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology The University of Liverpool

Blog about suicide and political crisis in Hong Kong


Jorge Chuaqui, University of Valparaiso, Chile

4. Systemic Inequality, Sustainability and COVID-19 Research in Political Sociology, Volume 29, 211–221 Copyright © 2022 James G. Linn, Jorge Chuaqui and Aristoteles Alencar Published under exclusive licence by Emerald Publishing Limited ISSN: 0895-9935/doi:: 10.1108/0895-99352022000029016
To link to this article: https://doi.org/10.1080/03623319.2022.2126291

Gary Linn, Optimal Solutions in Healthcare & Int. Development, USA


James G. Linn, Jorge Chuaqui & Aristoteles Alencar,(2022) Systemic Inequality, Sustainability and COVID,Published in Research in Political Sociology, Volume 29, 211-221.Emerald Publishing Limited.

James G. Linn, Jorge Chuaqui & Aristoteles Alencar,Covid-19 in Chile, Personal and Political Outcomes,Forthcoming in Research in Political Sociology,(in Press).

Jorge Chuaqui, James G. Linn et.al.(2022)Classes Sociales en Chile:Teoria e Informacion, (Social Classes in Chile:Theory and Data)Edicion Independiente digital,Vina del Mar Chile.

Joaquim Matavel, Khatia Munguanme,James G. Linn and Osvaldo Loquihia(2022)on Validation of the Women Abuse Screening Tool(WAST-S)In A Quasi-Experimental
Crossover Study.(Under Review by journal Aggression and Violent Behavior).

Conference paper & Community Education


Academic Projects

Participation in the Mozambique Intimate Partner Violence Study at Mondlane University,Maputo Mozambique

James G.Linn was in Maputo Mozambique Sept.24 to October 5th working as a member of the Ph.D committee of Joaquim Matavel and meeting with Joaquim Matavel and the Director of Program in Public Health Dr.Katia Munguambe.

He also participated in the Pre-doctoral defense exam of Joaquim Matavel and provided information on Fogarty NIH funded to expand the study.

Journal Editor and Professional Society,International Service
Associate Editor of Journal of HIV AIDS Research/JAHR
Coordinator of Section on Chronic Disease and Disability of World Social Science Association
President, Partners of the Americas--Tennessee Chapter

Jeremy Dixon, University of Bath, UK

Journal Articles

Professional Press
- Dixon, J. and Laing, J., 2022. How reform to the Mental Health Act should balance people’s treatment with increased autonomy, The Conversation, 12.05.22.
- Dixon, J., Laing, J. and Stone, K., 2022. Distress, uncertainty and frustration: Nearest relatives’ experiences of Mental Health Act assessments, Community Care, 03.05.22.