



Seth Deacon

Artist, designer and creative consultant

I offer effective, vibrant and efficient solutions for –

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seth.deacon.art@gmail.com



<https://sethdeacon.co.za>



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/seth-deacon-b6874510/>



INTRODUCTION

Tshisimani Centre for Activist Education was established in 2016 and has been creating a full programme of political education for a wide range of poor and working class activists and movements from 2017. For the first five years of our existence we focused on learning from and about movements in South Africa and building our legitimacy as an organisation committed to quality, impactful political education aimed at enhancing political consciousness as a means of supporting organising, mobilisation, campaigning, and political analysis. As part of our strategic planning for the second

five year phase (2021-2025), we recognised the need to move beyond our location in Cape Town, towards offering programmes that will reach movements and activists all over South Africa and, throughout the Southern African region. Luminate has provided project funding to pilot convenings of social justice movements in Africa to start the process of linking activists and their struggles across borders. This report narrates how Tshisimani went about the first year of co-learning about how to build social justice movements and networks in Southern and Eastern Africa.

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There were challenges in securing nominations of activists from certain contexts. For example, our contacts in Malawi stopped responding to requests. It became very difficult to make sustained contact with organisations in Namibia. In some cases it was the host organisations in Kenya and Zambia who assisted in contacting key organisations whom they recommended should be part of the space.

These were the countries represented across both convenings:



Notable absences were Angola, DRC, Malawi, Botswana, Lesotho and Rwanda.

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A similar model was developed for the Lusaka convening. Online meetings with YouthParliament (Y4P) began and after Y4P welcomed the proposal began and agreed to co-host, there were additional consultations with movements in the land sector. The program framework was developed collectively with Y4P, who strongly felt that any discussion on African solidarity requires a critical engagement with the subject of xenophobia. The programme was then designed to allow discussions on xenophobia, land grabbing and an expression of the arts in movement building. Youth's Parliament took responsibility of sessions on xenophobia and organising of the field learning visits to sites of political significance. Tshisimani took lead in sessions that looked at the land question in the region and how movements take forward the agenda of African solidarity.

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Chairperson Report

In addition to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, non-profit organisations and their boards have faced several difficulties over the past few years. A series of serious corporate governance crises in non-profit boards put an awful challenge over many good non-profit organisations.

While board members we frequently told and led to believe that their main duties are to the organisation's governance and fiduciary duties, there are social and legal implications on boards to set higher standards. NGOs exist for "public benefit" and non-profit boards have a fiduciary and social duty to the public (or important community partners) on whose behalf they serve. This work must go beyond organisational benefit and have a clear, deliberate focus on systems, context, and ecosystem impact in order to have a greater social impact.

The reality of the ongoing challenges and their impact on social and justice reform is a reminder that the board of SJP has to engage in reimagining and redefining the organisation as an effective social justice movement.

In South Africa the crisis for social justice in our social and justice communities came long before the Covid-19 crisis, where they made the work of Social Justice Organisations 28 years after the dawn of 'democracy' much more urgent than ever before.

In the aftermath of the crisis, several non-profit leaders have begun to ask what became of the years, if not decades, of service they provided to their communities, where they achieved their goals as a group? Why, despite their greatest efforts, had they had such little impact? Were they fulfilling their mission by addressing the symptoms rather than the core causes of the issues affecting the communities they serve? Were they making the hoped-for systemic impact? These questions imply requests on to get better at what we are doing. The imperative now is to stop doing the

things in the way that we have done up to now and to improve so that we may achieve the outcomes that we desire.

No single entity can address all of society's dysfunction and inequities. Thoughtful leaders understand the importance of understanding how their work fits into the larger picture or system. The concept of systems thinking is not new; it has long been considered as critical to comprehending and tackling complicated social problems (or 'wicked problems'). These complicated problems lack clear or linear cause and effect relationships, contain interrelated, interconnected elements, and involve multiple stakeholders. No single entity or intervention can address these issues on its own. Furthermore, there are numerous thoughts, understandings, and methods to how these issues appear and should be addressed. To solve complicated social problems, we require groups of varied groups, activities, and interventions. Doing this process, we may appear to use "top-down" but within the space of working with trusted formations, stakeholders and social partners, we will as a collective find our common way.


Within this system of change that is required, SJP in 2022 organised its work and focus around land reform and agrarian justice as it relates to food sovereignty and climate justice. Land reform drove our work to advance access to agricultural land to advance agrarian justice implementation, policy development and implementation.

SJP continued to work to bring about transformation in the land and agrarian sector, to shift land use and ownership patterns, to create and advance alternative food systems which ensure food security for all and to protect our earth through protecting agriculture which restores soil health and advances biodiversity in agriculture and the broader natural ecosystem. Food sovereignty, access to land, agrarian justice and climate adaptation are key goals for SJP and we continue to work and effective partnerships for systems change alongside others in the sector as some of the cases in this report express. So, it may be that our journey is not always pretty nor comfortable. It is a journey that changes us for the better – it is also a journey that changes our journey partners for the better, as time will show.


As always, allow me to express my gratitude to our staff, advisors, and all community, NGO and funding partners for their ongoing and persistent devotion to our journey. This "four quadrant" support will guarantee that SJP continues to be out in mission.

Johanna Mettler
Chairperson


Gender-affirming healthcare can include:




Psychosocial care, like talk therapy, counselling, support groups:




Voice and communication therapy, to help a person sound more masculine or feminine.




Advice on the safe use of non-medical gender-affirming practices (binding or strapping down breast tissue to create a flat appearing chest; "tucking" penis and scrotum for a feminine crotch appearance; "padding" to create the desired crotch appearance; "padding" to create rounder hips and thighs).




Gender-affirming hormones, which change a person's body to be more masculine (growing a beard and having more body hair, skin and hair becoming coarser, muscles growing bigger, and voice getting deeper) or feminine (hips and thighs become rounder, skin



Fertility preservation, like freezing your eggs, or sperm, to use later in life.



Hair removal, so the hair patterns of the body are either more masculine or more feminine.



Making sure that health care spaces are inclusive for Trans and Gender Diverse people (like posters, bathrooms, and information packs).

Statement of financial position

	2022	2021
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	R 121 690	R 824 887
Current assets		
Trade and other receivables	R 8 127	R 26 248
Cash and cash equivalents	R 4 785 500	R 5 708 937
	R 4 793 627	R 5 735 185
Total assets	R 4 915 317	R 6 560 122
RESERVES & LIABILITIES		
Reserves		
Accumulated surplus	R 3 955 206	R 3 937 438
Funds held in trust	–	R 64 340
Mobilisable replacement reserve	R 28 025	R 17 333
Sustainability reserve	R 802 879	R 802 439
Total reserves	R 4 806 110	R 4 821 550
Liabilities		
Current liabilities	R 1 179 876	R 201 497
Income received in advance	R 870 385	R 209 224
Trade and other payables	R 2 945 249	R 201 310
Total liabilities	R 4 805 097	R 4 192 231



LOOKING AHEAD



In 2024 ended with an expression of solidarity with movements engaged in resistance to capital, as the case was with standing in solidarity with Kashmir. Tshisimani's commitment to education for movement building and international solidarity remains unbroken. Having navigated the challenges of this year with notable success, Tshisimani understands the urgency and critical role of considering the impact of the educational offerings in context of increasing inequality socially and globally. We remain committed to the dedication of our staff, the commitment our board and the strength of our systems will ensure an effective and respectful delivery of our programs. We look forward to strengthening our partnership with the community where we are based, the partners who support our work and the individuals who continue to shape our programs. Tshisimani remains committed to serving activists and their movements through education as they strive for meaningful change in a world where their resolve for social justice will be seemingly tested.

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Cheri Hugo
Berni Searle
Andrew Verster

And I, a newly evolved fish

Iyatsiba Lab
8 August - 20 October 2025

The exhibition, *And I, a newly evolved fish* showcases Southern African art works that engage with oceans, bodies of water and beaches to challenge gender binaries and their intersections with coloniality, patriarchy, global capitalism and the Anthropocene.

The exhibition brings together contemporary artworks as well as those in archives that think with water towards disrupting the entangled binaries of race, gender, sexuality and human-nature within the historical and continued dominance of colonial, capitalist and anthropocentric logics.

It considers bodies of water, particularly oceans, as sites, subjects, and frameworks through which to imagine gender, sexuality, and power otherwise and within broader social and environmental justice goals. Such work further addresses the erasures of raced, gendered and other marginal bodies, knowledges, and histories both within dominant art and public representations, and in the public imaginary.

The exhibition is a part of the Realising Women and Girls' inclusion, representation and empowerment (RE-WIRING) project, a 3-year EU-funded project (2023-2026) (<https://re-wiring.eu/>) and is also the first event of the department of Women's and Gender Studies 30 year anniversary celebrations.

Exhibition opening seminar

8 August 2025
10:00am – 4:30pm with lunch
Iyatsiba Lab

Speakers include:

Hugo ka Canham, Professor at UNISA and author of *Riotous Deathscapes*. With responses from **Lwando Scott**, Centre for Humanities Research & RE-WIRING researcher, UWC

Premesh Lalu, UK-RSA Bilateral Research Chair: Digital humanities chair in culture and technics and author of *Undoing Apartheid?*

Linda Senden, Principal investigator on the RE-WIRING EU-funded project, Professor of Law, University of Utrecht

Desiree Lewis, Professor of Women's and Gender Studies, UWC

Patricia Hayes, DSI/NRF SARCHI Chair in Visual History & Theory, UWC

Nomusa Makhubu, Professor in Art History, UCT

And curator, **Rory Tsapayi**, in conversation with exhibiting artists

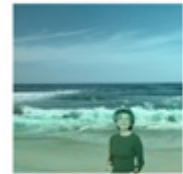
Credit: Cheri Hugo

Who swims behind/under/through the exhibition



Rory Tsapayi
(curator of the exhibition)

Rory Tsapayi is a Zimbabwean-Irish cultural worker based in Cape Town. He is currently a curatorial researcher at Zitz MOCAA and an alumnus of the Zitz MOCAA and University of the Western Cape Museum Fellowship (2022). Rory is completing the MA Fellowship in Visual History and Theory at the CHR where he has been swimming through the aesthetics, materialities, and politics of water in his MA research which focuses on an Italian 'pirate' photographer's record of the Kariba Hydroelectric Dam on the Zambezi River. His independent curatorial projects in Cape Town include *Midas Touch - Khanyi Mawhayi* at OLRCH Projects and *The SADC* Biennale with Raúl Jorge Gougeal at the Association for Visual Arts.



Rosemarie Bulikema
(advisor on the exhibition and RE-WIRING work package)

Rosemarie Bulikema is professor emerita of Art, Culture and Diversity at Utrecht University, where she chaired the Gender Studies Programme until 2023. She is currently the project leader of the online museum of Equality and Difference *Moed* online. Among her recent publications are *Doing Gender in Media, Art and Culture* (Routledge 2006), *Revolts in Cultural Critique* (Bowman & Littlefield 2021) and *Cultures, Citizenship and Human Rights* (Routledge 2020).



Lwando Scott
(Senior researcher on RE-WIRING work Package 5: media and representation & advisor on the exhibition)

Lwando Scott holds a PhD in Sociology, and is a Senior Researcher at the Centre for Humanities Research at the University of the Western Cape. They are an interdisciplinary scholar with a focus on gender and sexualities, and on how these categories must be linked to ideas of freedom in post-apartheid South Africa. Their scholarship is engaged in the complex ways gender and sexuality are omitted in discussions on the legacies of colonialism and apartheid. Working with the concept of "queering the postcolony," they have published on the intersections of sexuality, gender, and African cultural practices in post-apartheid South Africa. Lwando is interested in expansive ideas and practices of freedom that go beyond normative, nationalist and racialised boundaries. Their work echoes the call issued by Fahmda Raz in her epic poem, "come let us create a new lexicon."



Tamara Shefer
(Lead researcher on RE-WIRING work Package 5: media and representation & advisor on the exhibition)

Tamara Shefer is professor of Women's and Gender Studies, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of the Western Cape, and the lead researcher on the RE-WIRING work package on media and representation. Her scholarship has primarily focused on sexuality and young people towards gender and sexual justice. She has been swimming and thinking in/with/through oceans for entangled justice for some years, and is a co-editor of the volume, *Hydrofeminist thinking with oceans: Political and scholarly possibilities* (Routledge, 2024), amongst other publications in this area. Much of her scholarship has thought with art and activism for intersectional gender justice.

people are disproportionately affected by environmental harm, often lacking access to safe housing, clean water, and healthcare.

As the climate crisis deepens, so, too, must our capacity for imagination and transformation. A gender fluid approach to the environment doesn't offer easy solutions, but it does offer a radical reorientation. It asks us to embrace uncertainty, to value resilience and change, to deconstruct harmful binaries, and to find kinship where we once saw separation.

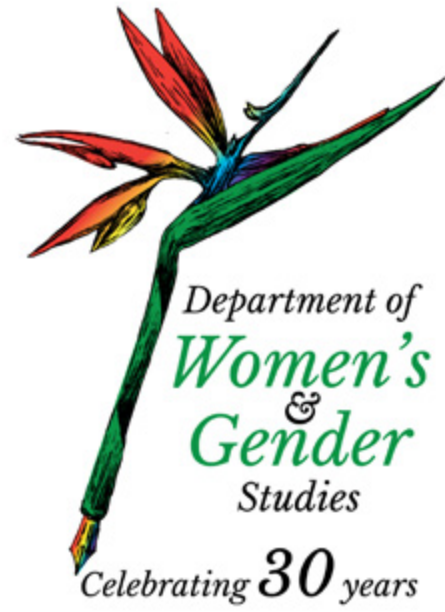
Water teaches us that boundaries are porous. Coastlines shift. Rivers change course. Glaciers melt. Likewise, our understanding of gender and nature must remain open to evolution. The gender fluid perspective brings with it an ethic of care, responsiveness, and humility — qualities urgently needed in our planetary moment.

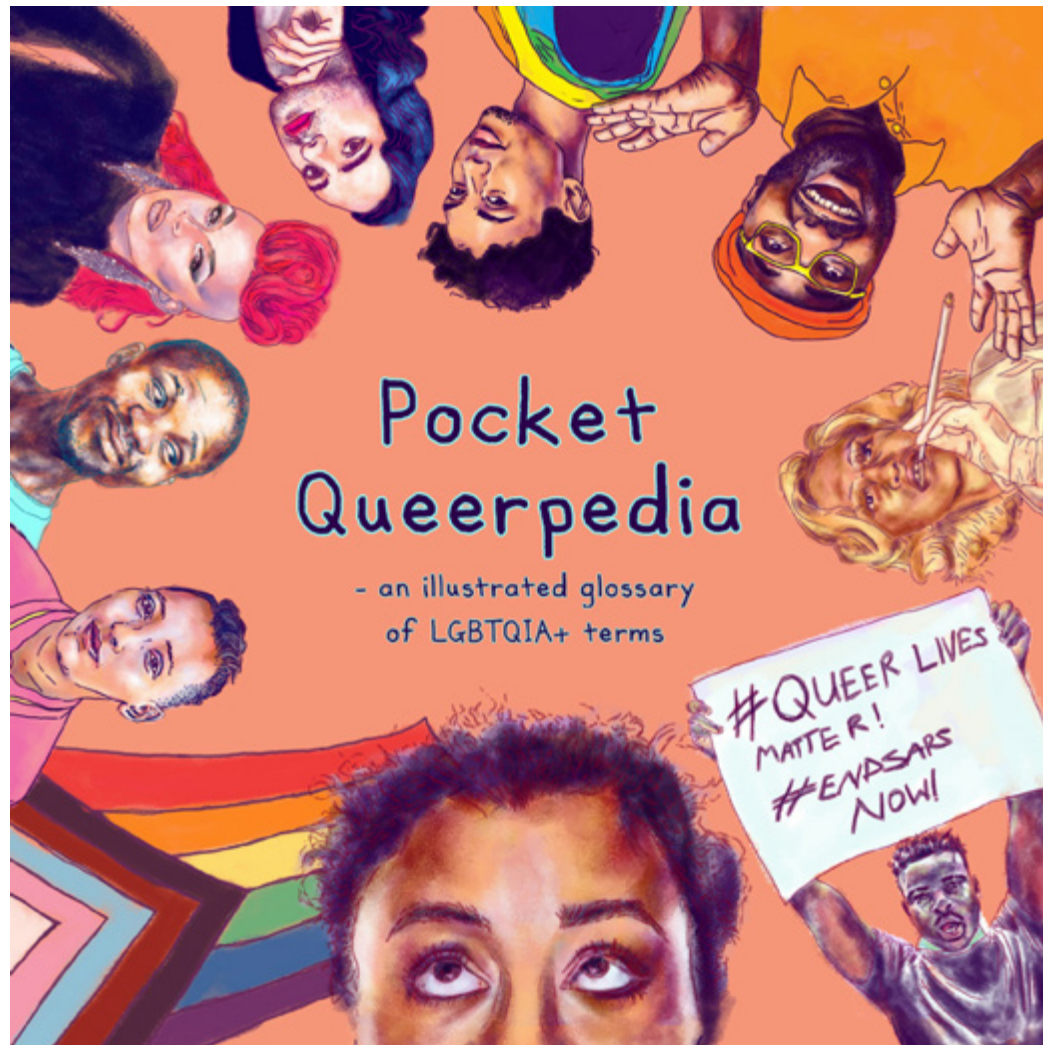
Ultimately, both water and gender fluidity remind us that life is not fixed, but flowing. In learning to navigate these flows — not to dam them, define them, or deny them — we may find new ways to survive, connect, and thrive.



Mikhailia Petersen
Woman of the Water, 2024
C-print on Polybell
Courtesy the artist







A note about language and labels

Language does not stand still. It is a tool that we use and shape to best fit our needs. Terms come from communities in different ways and spread. Some terms fall out of use, while others remain as part of popular imagination and use.

When using the terms described here or elsewhere, it is important to remember their purpose. LGBTQIA+ terms are meant to empower individuals and communities, not police them. Class, race, cultural background, age, and other factors play a role in how people see and describe themselves. There will inevitably be differences in our use of language, and the politics we practice which shapes this language.





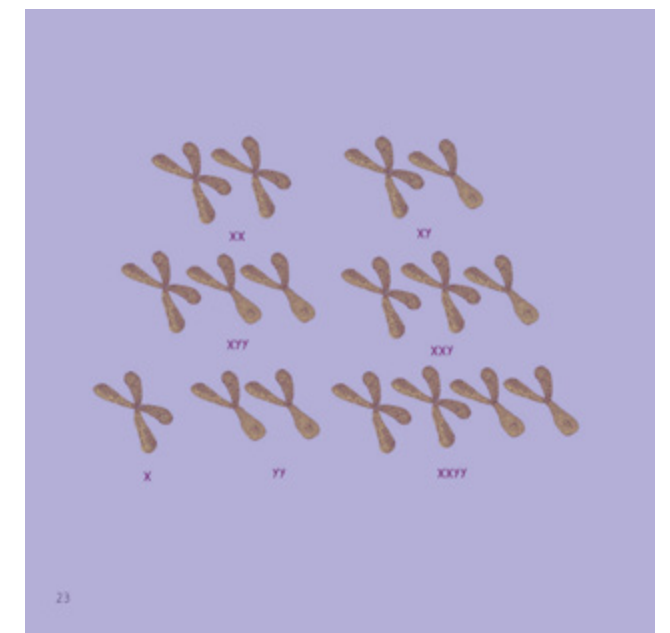
"If I didn't define myself for myself, I would be crunched into other people's fantasies for me and eaten alive."
- Audre Lorde

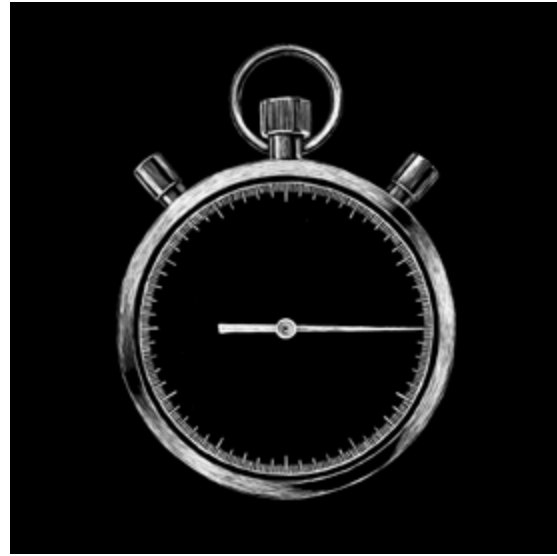
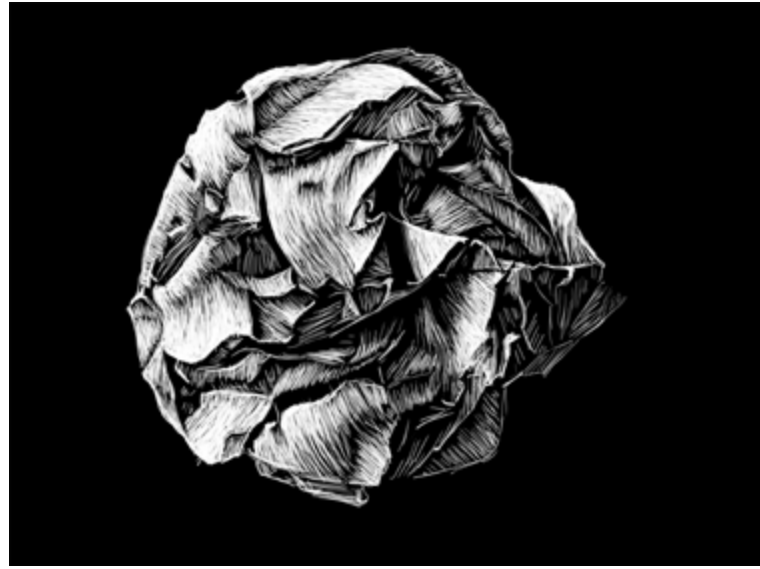
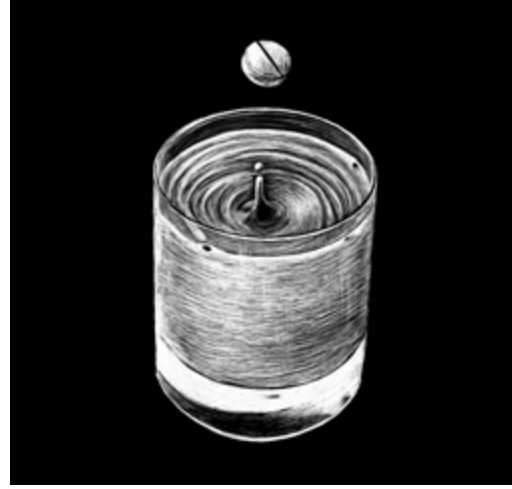
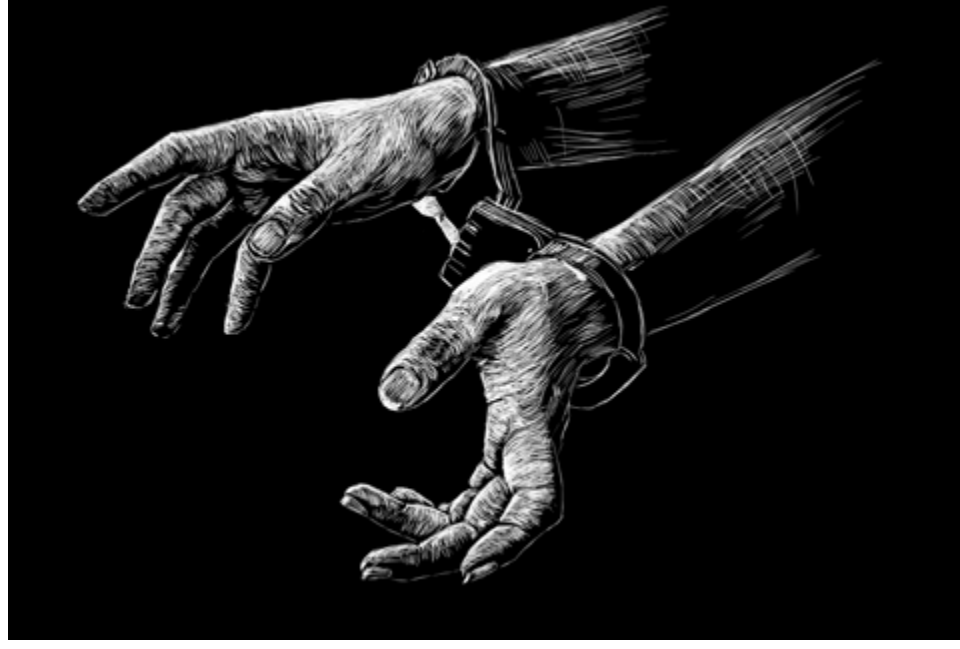


Sexual Orientation

This describes the gender(s) you are attracted to, based on your own gender identity. Are you attracted to people of the same gender identity as you, different gender(s) identity to you or do you not experience attraction at all? For example, if you are a woman attracted to men (heterosexual/straight²³) you have a different sexual orientation to a woman attracted to women (homosexual/lesbian²³).

Heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual²⁴, asexual¹⁰ and pansexual²⁵ are terms that fall under sexual orientation. Sexual orientations also include more specific and casual terms, such as: gay; lesbian; straight; bi or pan.



Technology and the fight against coronavirus - friend or enemy?

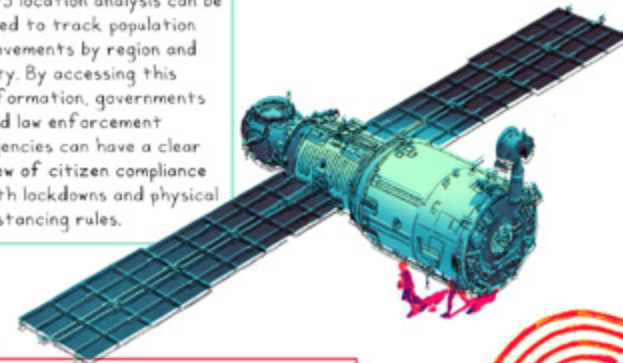
COVID-19 has infected and affected many people around the world. As international agencies like the World Health Organisation (WHO), government, schools and universities, workers, businesses, social movements and communities grapple with this difficult reality, there is a strong view that suggests that rapid advances in digital technologies - in areas such as the ability to monitor physical location, communication activity and online searches - might make a big contribution to controlling and defeating this global health emergency.

Data scientists suggest that digital technologies can help healthcare workers, epidemiologists, scientists and policymakers to make better and precise decisions in the fight against COVID-19.

Here are some examples of how digital technology and automated systems are being used in efforts to keep the pandemic under control.



GPS location analysis can be used to track population movements by region and city. By accessing this information, governments and law enforcement agencies can have a clear view of citizen compliance with lockdowns and physical distancing rules.



The 'geo-fence' or 'electronic fence' which is used in Taiwan, is an example of this. This app uses mobile phone location to ensure that people who are quarantined or in self-isolation stay in their homes. The technology monitors phone signals and alerts authorities (health workers and the police) when quarantined individuals leave their designated locations or turn their cellphones off. The police and health workers can respond to those who break the regulations within 15 minutes. There is also a 'check-in' service that allows health authorities to call patients twice a day to ensure that people don't avoid tracking by leaving their phones at home.

There is also a "check-in" service that allows health authorities to call patients twice a day to ensure that people don't avoid tracking by leaving their phones at home.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-taiwan-surveillanc/taiwan-new-electronic-fence-for-quarantined-people-wave-of-virus-monitoring-idUSKBN217096>
<https://www.techuk.org/insight/news/items/17187-how-taiwan-used-tech-to-fight-covid-19>



"The poorest 50% of households in South Africa are being required to pay a quarter of their monthly income on basic services."
- Tracy Ledger

Over 2019/20 about R9-billion was distributed to municipalities to buy electricity for indigent* households. These funds did not reach the households.

In 2020/21 the National Treasury budgeted R435.04 per indigent household per month, (about R54.1-billion for about 10.1 million households)

Municipalities purposely make it exceedingly difficult for households to register for the FBE (free basic electricity) benefit. This has resulted in less than 30% of these funds being distributed to those who need them.

*In 2017 an indigent household was considered to have a combined family income of less than R3200 per month



<https://k2hvcv0u2f9p1xw1f9spengine.mediab-vl.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/baskin-promises21-04-21c.pdf>
<https://pari.org.za/end-of-the-road-a-critical-review-of-the-local-government-fiscal-framework/>

They can be equipped with the ability to send feedback messages to authorities who can then intervene if necessary.

Wash your hands!
Remain at least two metres apart!

Drones are also being used to spread messages about coronavirus and to ensure citizen compliance with lockdowns in Rwanda and Spain among others.

Drone technology can record the number of people on the streets, count them and record voices and conversations.

In Tzaneen in Limpopo, drone technology is used to monitor whether people are adhering to lockdown regulations introduced in South Africa.

<https://www.sowetanlive.co.za/news/south-africa/2020-04-12-watch- Limpopo-major-becomes-big-brother-thanks-to-a-drone/>



What if your phone could automatically trace all your contacts? In what is hailed as a major boost to the fight against coronavirus, Google and Apple recently announced that they are developing a system for tracking the spread of Covid-19.

The app will allow users (through their smartphones) to share data using Bluetooth communications and apps from official public health authorities. The system is still being developed and would require user permission to download. But there are plans to make this tracing function an inbuilt feature for all iOS and Android phones.

<https://www.theverge.com/2020/4/10/2116484/google-apple-coronavirus-contact-tracing-bluetooth-location-tracking-data-app>

Over the last 5 years, the cost of the 'basket of basic services' has increased at a rate higher than inflation*

The basket of basic services is part of the social wage, the includes services such as: sanitation; access to clean drinking water; electricity; waste removal; and roads.

In July and August this year, water charges increased by 7,0% (compared with 9,9% in 2020), electricity tariffs increased by 13,8% (compared with 6,3% in 2020)

Increasingly poorer households are unable to afford basic services

<http://www.statssa.gov.za/?p=14592>
<https://pari.org.za/end-of-the-road-a-critical-review-of-the-local-government-fiscal-framework/>

*everything else is getting more expensive too, but at a slower rate than the services we really need to survive

ELLIOTT KOTZE

Home About me For healthcare professionals Get in touch

I don't feel that it is necessary to know exactly what I am. The main interest in life and work is to become someone else that you were not in the beginning. - Michel Foucault

I am a registered counselling and community psychologist based in Muizenberg, Cape Town. I provide specialised psychotherapy services, offering a welcoming space for adolescents and adults to engage with and explore various aspects of their lives and identities. My services encompass both brief and long-term therapy for adolescents and adults, thoughtfully designed to address a range of critical concerns from an intersectional point of view.

People often assume that the work of a psychologist is to provide coaching or advice for "solving" specific problems. For me, therapy is like holding up a mirror, where I tell you what I see, and we collaborate in understanding its significance and meaning for your life – both in the way you relate to yourself, and the ways in which you relate to those around you.

As a registered counselling psychologist, I am committed to addressing the unique needs of queer, transgender, and neurodivergent people, as well as other people who find themselves on the more interesting side of "normal". My therapeutic approach is grounded in a psychodynamic framework, focussing on the impact that diverse relationships throughout our lives have in making sense of ourselves, the world, and our experiences in the world. My expertise extends to navigating the complexities of diverse relationship dynamics, including kink and BDSM, polyamory, swinging, and open relationships.

People often assume that the work of a psychologist is to provide coaching or advice for "solving" specific problems. For me, therapy is like holding up a mirror, where I tell you what I see, and we collaborate in understanding its significance and meaning for your life – both in the way you relate to yourself, and the ways in which you relate to those around you.

As a queer trans man, I have an intimate understanding of the challenges faced by those who do not conform to societal norms. I strive to create a safe and affirming space for anyone who feels a bit different, whether you have a disability, think differently, or have a unique way of doing relationships.

Get in touch

Name

First Last

Email

Comment or Message

Submit

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Support our work

We are a non-profit human rights organisation offering professional services to ensure the full realisation of constitutional & human rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI+) persons,



Heather Adonis
she/her
Health & Support Services Coordinator

Heather has devoted an impressive 28 years to Triangle Project. Starting as an administrator and coordinator, Heather has been a steadfast advocate for the LGBTQIA+ community. Joining Triangle Project in 1995, she has played a crucial



Carol Lennon
she/her
Nurse & Outreach Worker

Carol, our nurse at Triangle Project, brings decades of healthcare experience to our team. With a background as a paramedic, grassroots activist, and outreach worker, she is a valued and trusted presence at the clinic. Known for championing direct

Strategic goals

Our key intervention strategies

- Advance economic justice for LGBTQI+ people
- Affirming and quality health services for LGBTQI+ people
- Intersectionality within the LGBTQI+ movements and other broad-based movements
- Strengthen research capacities
- Reduced violence against, and increased access to justice for LGBTQI+ persons
- SDGIESC rights and protections adopted and realised in legislation, institutions, systems, processes, and practices

Our history

- 1981** The formation of Triangle Project's predecessor, GASA 8010 (Gay Association of South Africa), by a passionate group of gay men responding to the HIV/AIDS crisis.
- 1982** Establishment of counselling and medical services, along with a telephone helpline.
- 1984** Pioneering efforts in HIV & AIDS prevention initiatives and literature dissemination across South Africa.
- 1989** Creation of the AIDS Support and Education Trust (ASET) as part of the compassionate response.
- 1994** ASET and counselling services became independent, moving to a community centre for wider accessibility. Pivotal meeting designates ASET as the torchbearer for HIV & AIDS work in the Western Cape's gay and lesbian communities. In 1994, SWEAT (sex worker education and advocacy taskforce) was launched within a Triangle Project programme. By 1996 with rapid growth SWEAT moved out of Triangle Project structures.
- 2006-2007** The passing of the Civil Union Act at the end of 2006, where Triangle played a crucial

Country cooking: the music of Chris McGregor's Brotherhood of Breath

As the end of the 1960s, while he was in exile in England, South Africa's pioneer Chris McGregor gave expression to his expansive musicality by forming a big band called Brotherhood of Breath. Until his passing in 1992, McGregor performed and recorded with the group. Four UK-based musicians featured in the band's 1983 legendary recording Country Cooking are in Cape Town to record and perform with a stellar cast of local jazz artists. In a joint 'Tshisimani and Jazz in the Native Yards (LRY)' collaboration and public seminar, the four 'brothers' and University of York music scholar and saxophonist Jonathan Eabo will talk about the legacy of McGregor and Brotherhood of Breath's music and how politics in Europe misinterpreted and misunderstood the band's important repertoire.

Saturday 23 March 2019
@ 15:00-17:00

Tshisimani Centre for Activist Education
Bentha House
67-69 Main Road,
Mowbray

RSVP for catering purposes by
Wednesday 20 March by
info@tshisimani.org.za
or (021) 685 3516

Tshisimani
Centre for Activist Education

JAZZ IN THE NATIVE YARDS

African solidarity: Film & food festival

Event 2
Saturday 6 November, 12h00 - 14:30
Email: info@tshisimani.org.za
WhatsApp: 079 865 5542

12h00. Screening of *Finding Sally* (Ethiopia). Four decades after Sally's disappearance, Tamara Dawit pieces together the mysterious life of her aunt Sally. She revisits the Ethiopian Revolution which leads her to question notions of belonging, personal convictions and political ideals at a time when Ethiopia is going through important political changes once again.

13:45 lunch: Ethiopian platter feast & coffee ceremony

African solidarity: Film & food festival

Event 3
Saturday 6 November, 15h00 - 16h50
Email: info@tshisimani.org.za
WhatsApp: 079 865 5542

15h00. Screening of *The Boy who Harnessed the Wind* (Malawi). Against all the odds, a 13-year-old boy in Malawi invents an unconventional way to save his family and village from famine. Based on the best-selling book and true story of William Kamkwamba.

Isiko Liyagulelwa: uZuko uSaluka

Directed by:
Tandile Mbatsha

Written by:
Zuko Manundo

Director of Photography:
Sesethu August

Production Manager:
Bianca van Rooi

Executive Producer:
Queer Feminist Film Festival

QFF
Queer Feminist Film Festival

AL BURA

BLACKSASH MAKING HUMAN RIGHTS REAL

111 EASY LEGAL TERMS!

Accused a person charged with a crime	Act a law made by parliament	Action, civil a case made by someone against another person or institution to claim money for damages or losses, also called civil claim or suing	Action, criminal a case made by the state to punish someone who has committed a crime also called a criminal charge or prosecution	Acquitted found not guilty	Admissible admitted as evidence in a court case	Admission of guilt admitting guilt for a crime and paying a fine instead of going to court e.g. traffic fine	Affidavit a written statement that is sworn to in front of a commissioner of oaths, can be used as evidence in court	Aggravating factors things that will cause you to get a heavier sentence, e.g. previous convictions, causing harm to others	Appeal asking a higher court or authority to overturn the judgment, sentence or decision of a lower court or authority	Assets property that you own, for example houses, cars, furniture, bank accounts, money in the bank and insurance policies. They can be used to pay your debts.	Attach property to seize someone's property when they owe money after getting a court order	Balance of probabilities the amount of proof that you need to win a civil case when you weigh up the two sides in the civil action, you have to show that your story is stronger than the other side's story on a balance of probabilities	Beyond reasonable doubt the amount of proof needed for someone to be guilty in a criminal trial. Once has to be proved beyond reasonable doubt - there must be no doubt at all.	Bill of Rights Bill of rights and freedoms for all people living in a country which is part of the law of that country. South Africa has a Bill of Rights in our Constitution.	By-law law made by a local authority	Case-docket file opened by police when investigating a crime	Charge-sheet the paper in the Magistrate's Court that lists all the crimes that someone is charged with.	Children's Court special court of Magistrate's Court that decides cases affecting the welfare of children	Civil action/claim claiming money through the civil court from a person who caused you harm.	Commission of Enquiry government-appointed investigation often headed by a judge	Commissioner of Oaths person who decides cases in the civil. Commissioner also used as abbreviation for Commissioner of Oaths. Commissioner of Oaths Revenue, Commissioner of Oaths and so on.	Commissioner of Oaths person in front of whom an affidavit can be sworn, e.g. police, ministers, postmasters, bank managers	Common law law not made by parliament that has been around for centuries, for things like murder, theft, assault, etc.	Community Service Order doing a sentence of community service in the community instead of going to prison.	Compensation money that a court orders you must receive if you are injured or lose your job, or if someone has committed a crime against you.	Complainant person who states a criminal charge against someone else at a police station.	Contempt of Court breaking a court order or showing disrespect for the court, e.g. swearing at the Magistrate.	Conviction found guilty of a crime by a court	Correctional supervision a condition released from prison, where you are released and monitored by someone called a Correctional Officer	Court order an official order by a judge telling someone to do something or to stop doing something.	Criminal charge/case/action court case against someone who committed a crime.	Criminal record higher court than Magistrate's Court for serious crimes or crimes involving large amounts of money	Customary union/marriage marriage according to African customary law	Default judgment when a person does not appear in a civil case when they do not come to defend themselves	Defence legal reason to explain or excuse what you did, e.g. you did someone because you were provoked	Dependant someone who is financially dependent on another person, e.g. a child on a parent someone called a Dependent Official	Deponent person who makes an affidavit	Detainee person held in prison or police cells	Discharge court case being stopped because of a lack of evidence	District Courts ordinary Magistrate's Courts in each big town	Divorce Courts courts where people can go to have divorce cases resolved more cheaply and quickly	Domiciled being somewhere permanently	Evidence information, including statements and documents, that is used as proof in a court case	Finding decision of a court or a Commissioner of enquiry	Fraud the crime of lying or deceiving in a way that causes harm to someone else	Guardian person who has legal authority over a child	High Court higher court than Magistrate's Court for serious crimes or crimes involving large amounts of money	Illegal against the law, breaking the law	Indictment the paper in the High Court listing all the crimes someone is charged with	Inquest judicial investigation into whether any person or group of people was responsible for the death of someone who did not die of natural causes	Interdict a court order to protect someone or to force someone to do something	Interim order a court order that is temporary and does not have long-term effect	Judgment decision made by judge or Magistrate	Jurisdiction the powers and functions of a court or other institution	Juvenile Courts special courts at the Magistrate's Court which decide cases where the accused is a juvenile	Labour Court court where workers can make a case against their employers or employers can make a case against workers	Labour Court court where workers can make a case against their employers or employers can make a case against workers	Lawful done with power given by the law	Legal something that the law allows, not breaking the law	Legal aid state assistance to someone who can't afford a lawyer	Legal capacity being in a state to take legal action or to have action taken against you	Legislation laws passed by parliament	Liability/Liability when by law you are responsible for something or owe money. If a person or a company owes someone money, they are liable for paying that money and can be taken to court if they don't pay. If the person owes R1 000, then their liability is R1 000	Liability/Liability when by law you are responsible for something or owe money. If a person or a company owes someone money, they are liable for paying that money and can be taken to court if they don't pay. If the person owes R1 000, then their liability is R1 000	Locus standi legal standing, the right to bring a case to court, e.g. a child does not have locus standi	Magistrate's Courts lower courts run by a Magistrate	Maintenance Court/ officer court and person for setting out maintenance problems of the Magistrate's Court	Means test used to decide whether someone is poor enough to get legal aid or state grants	Mediation using a go-between to help sort out a disagreement between people	Notice of motion a paper sent by the applicant in an interdict or other court application to the person against whom the case is made, to let them know	Notice of motion a paper sent by the applicant in an interdict or other court application to the person against whom the case is made, to let them know	Oath swearing that something is the truth	Party one of the sides or people involved in a court case or legal dispute	Plaintiff the person who makes a civil claim	Plea/Plead saying 'guilty' or 'not guilty' to a crime in a criminal case, also stating your defence in a civil action	Pleadings documents that state where parties set out their side of the issue	Power-of-attorney a legal document you sign giving someone else the right to do certain things for you, e.g. collect your wages	Precedent example or standard that can be used or followed in future	Prescribe/Prescription period time period before a case falls away	Probation trial period where people, often juveniles, have a chance to prove that they can behave	Probation Officer person, usually a social worker, who has to make sure that someone on probation behaves themselves	Proof enough evidence to win or at least to make a good case	Prosecute/Prosecution bringing a case against someone accused of breaking the law	Public Protector an official appointed by the government to investigate the government's actions and ensure that it is acting in the best interests of the people	Regional Courts higher Magistrate's Courts in large towns or cities that have more powers than District Magistrate's Courts	Regulation a law made by a government minister who is given the authority to do so	Respondent person against whom an application (including an interdict, or an appeal) is made	Return day the date when a court application (including an interdict) will come back to court for a decision or for the next step to be taken, also called a return	Review higher court looking at decisions made by lower courts or commissions, also stating your defence in a civil action	Review higher court looking at decisions made by lower courts or commissions, also stating your defence in a civil action	Self-incrimination/Right against self-incrimination the right to stay silent and not to say things which can be used against you in court	Self-incrimination/Right against self-incrimination the right to stay silent and not to say things which can be used against you in court	Subpoena official paper used to let witnesses or other people come to court to give evidence	Sue/Suing to claim money through a civil action from someone who caused you damage	Summons (civil) a document that contains a demand for money and starts a civil action	Summons (criminal) a document calling a person to come to court to stand trial for breaking the law	Suspended sentence using a part of a prison sentence or fine as part of a prison sentence or fine is suspended if the same crime is committed within a stated time	Sworn statement statement given under oath, which is strong evidence in court also called affidavit	Sworn statement statement given under oath, which is strong evidence in court also called affidavit	Testify give evidence in court	Trial court case	Unlawful outside the powers given by law	Urgent application applying to the High Court for an urgent court order or interdict	Warrant a document issued by a magistrate or commissioner or police officer of rank of lieutenant or higher that gives permission for things like arrests, searches, and evictions	Warrant of Execution document giving court officials the right to take away certain property to cover your debts	Witness person who saw something and may give evidence in a court case
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HELP LINE
021 685 3516

Get in touch!

seth.deacon.art@gmail.com

<https://sethdeacon.co.za>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/seth-deacon-b6874510/>