

CRIMSA NEWSLETTER

Volume 46: JUNE 2008

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In this the first Newsletter for 2008, the editor would again like to make an appeal to all members, students and academics in the broad field of Criminology to send in news about their Departments, new staff, projects, conference attendance workshops and any newsworthy items for inclusion in the next CRIMSA Newsletter. Contributions should not exceed 500 words.

The editor would also like to be informed when members or/and academics contribute in the media on any criminology related topic.

A short summary will suffice as well as information regarding when and where

The Editor

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Letters to the Editor

POST TRAUMATIC ANGER”

One of our members of the Editorial Committee of ACTA CRIMINOLOGICA, Prof. FW Winkel, has taken up the INTERVICT chair as professor of Psychological Victimology at Tilburg University, the Netherlands, on October 17, 2007.

On this occasion he has delivered an interesting lecture, titled: “Post Traumatic Anger”, Missing link in the wheel of misfortune. In this lecture, he deals with many PTSD-theories, the Resus-model and notably anger as “the other face of PTSD”. Dealing with the efficacy of therapeutic interventions

on Domestic violence, divided in the “silent revolution” and PTSD and re-victimization. An elaborate list with references is added.

The lecture in full can also be accessed through the website of Intervict.

It remains to be seen if and in which way this topic is also applicable to the Southern African environment. Another challenge to our colleagues in Victimology!

Currently Prof Winkel is connected to INTERVICT (website: www.tilburguniversity.nl/intervict/) the Institute to which also the colleagues profs. Marc Groenhuijsen and Jan van Dijk belong. In record time, this Institute has developed itself into, if I may say so, to a centre of excellence in Victimology. They are also responsible in hosting for most of the content of the Victimology website: <http://www.Victimology.nl>

Dr. Joep Toebosch,
Victimologist

RWANDA REVISITED

A few hours after a Falcon-jet, with the then Presidents of Rwanda and Burundi among the passengers, was shot down on approach to Kigali International Airport on 6th of April. A highly organized and pre-planned genocide started all over Rwanda. In some urban areas, the “genocidaires” were carrying computer print-outs with them, indicating which people were of Tutsi-origin and Hutu-origin. This enabled them to kill Tutsi and moderate Hutu’s only.

Till the end of the genocide on or about the 17th of July, more than 900.000 people were mercilessly killed and many women raped before their killing. Desperate attempts of the tiny UNAMIR contingent to get more outside assistance were largely ignored by UN-headquarters. As soon as 10 Belgian paratroopers, part of UNAMIR, were killed as well, while trying to protect some ministers, the Belgian government decided to withdraw the entire battalion. So called safe places, like churches during prior “pre-genocides”, were systematically used as “killing fields”

The genocide was ultimately stopped by the invading Tutsi-led RPF-forces under their then commander Paul Kagame, currently the President of Rwanda.

Situation in 1996

Just 1,5 years after the horrific genocide, I was seconded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the general and personal counselor of the Rwandan Minister of Justice to assist the Rwandan Ministry of Justice in Kigali. Capacity building of the legal system, which should include the start of the trials against the many suspects of the genocide, was supposed to be the need of the hour.

In different prisons, spread around the country, about 80.000 people were detained under almost unacceptable bad conditions. The formal capacity of the Rwandan prison-system was estimated to harbor a max. of 7000 detainees. The total number of police inspectors, prosecutors and judges, most of them hardly trained, amounted to a mere 295, not to

forget a strange imbalance, because there were 113 judges, 113 Prosecutors and 70 investigators only!

Human rights groups like Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch amongst many others, rightly so, urged the Rwandan Government to speed up the legal process.

Interim

Having started with writing a sectorial policy for the Judicial Police Force, I embarked thereafter on two different exercises:

1. Co-writing a design of a Law, together with an American law professor, meant to compensate victims of the genocide, and more urgently,
2. Founding and heading a Permanent Secretariat for the start of the Genocide Trials. This required intensive traveling around the country, gathering as many data as possible, to make an inventory of human resources, infrastructures, guidelines, training of skills-programs of judges, prosecutors and investigators.

At the end of 1996, it was possible to start the first genocide trials. At the end of 1996 the first trials were started in Kigali city. In terms of fair trials, much left to be desired, notably with respect to the rights of the accused. As there were no legal counsels available, real fair trials were not to be expected. Quite understandably complaints were uttered by NGO's, like "Avocats sans Frontieres". This NGO proposed to "fly in" French-speaking advocates, mainly of Belgian origin, to have them stay for one month only, and in the meantime reimbursing them for "income lost" during their absence of their normal practice in Belgium! Noteworthy to remind that many Rwandans mastered Kinyarwanda only. As time passed it became abundantly clear, that genocide trials, held in the (western- oriented) legal style, would take any time longer then about 100 years or so. It was then proposed to introduce the "indigent" system of Gacaca, a legal system, which encompasses a traditional indigenous way of dealing with members of a community presided by elderly. In the beginning, it was considered to "copy" parts of the well- known South African TRC-system.

Where as the Gacaca system is in use for the last few years, and much progress has been made, it looks interesting for criminologists and victimologists, to broaden their research aim well into the Rwandan Gacaca-system. Notably for SA academics-victimologists upfront! – it can be an interesting exercise to look after elements of Retributive Justice and Restorative Justice ! A much more holistic academic view on the Gacaca-system, also including highly critical remarks, can be found in A.L.Tiemessen's contribution to the African Studies Quarterly, Volume 8, Issue 1, Fall 2004, and titled: "After Arusha: Gacaca Justice in Post-Genocide Rwanda (accessed trough www.africa.ufl.edu/asq/v8/v8ia4.pdf on 7th of January 2008) .

Rwanda 2007

From the 16th till the 23rd of November 2007, I was able to revisit Rwanda again. A young Rwandan student, Benjamin Karamera, which I came to know during my first posting, as a part-time judge, finalized his legal studies at the Independent University of Kigali, by defending his thesis in order to get his LLM. This public exercise was a perfect reason to revisit the country.

Interestingly was the fact that defending a thesis at this University, is a public exercise, in which even, besides professors and lecturers, also the public is given the chance to pose questions to the candidate. However, it was sad to learn that studying Criminology and/or Victimology, was not possible. Also no academic provisions were available to study genocide, leave alone the development of "early warning-systems".

Studying and living in Kigali looks a quite interesting and almost crime-fear-free exercise. I was told by the former Prosecutor General, Jean de Dieu Mucyo, that the Gacaca trials were speeding up fast and it was foreseen that during the current year, most outstanding cases were to be dealt with.

Dr. Joep Toebosch
Independent Victimologist
Pretoria, January 2008

CONFERENCE REPORTS

No conference reports were received and the Editor would like to once again appeal to academics to submit a short summary of the conferences they attend.

WEBSITES

12 Jun 2008: ISS Today: Fears Over the South African Government's Response to the Xenophobia Crisis

[http://www.issafrica.org/index.php?link_id=5&slink_id=6097&link_type=12&slink_type=12&tmpl_id=3]

06 Jun 2008: Summary Report: ISS Seminar on the Constitution and the Security Sector (PDF 24kb) [http://www.issafrica.org/dynamic/administration/file_manager/file_links/SSGSEMSUM060608.PDF?link_id=&slink_id=6098&link_type=&slink_type=13&tmpl_id=3]

The Weekly Accessions List

These new titles are part of one of the largest justice and drug policy libraries and abstract databases in the world. <http://www.ncjrs.gov/wal.html>

This week's list contains 76 documents in the following subject areas:

Corrections (21)

Crime Prevention (1)

Criminology (11)

Drugs (4)

International Criminology (5)

International Police (1)

Juveniles (24)

Police (5)

Statistics (2)

Victims (2)

Search the NCJRS Abstracts Database online at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/abstractdb/search.asp>

JOURNALS

SA Crime Quarterly No 24, June2008

[http://www.issafrica.org/index.php?link_id=3&slink_id=6065&link_type=12&slink_type=12&tmpl_id=3]

British Journal of Criminology

July 2008; Vol. 48, No. 4

URL: <http://bjc.oxfordjournals.org/content/vol48/issue4/index.dtl?etoc>

The Asian Journal of Criminology seeks submission for volume 4 - 2009 onwards on studies of crime and criminal justice in Asia or about the impact of Asian crime groups in America, Europe and elsewhere. We are especially interested in receiving manuscripts with a comparative or empirical focus and that also address legal issues pertinent to criminal justice. The journal also invites shorter reviews or research notes. The journal publishes in both legal and Harvard style referencing format. Authors may upload directly on the Springer site and work is published online as soon as practical. Special issues on crime in the Republic of Korea, Hong Kong and Macau and Taiwan are also in preparation and authors are invited to submit accordingly. Please feel welcome to contact the editors: * Prof Rod Broadhurst - r.broadhurst@griffith.edu.au or * Prof Eric Chui - ericchui@cuhk.edu.hk or proceed online at http://www.springer.com/social+sciences/criminology/journal/*

RESEARCH REPORTS

Reports by the German Federal Criminal Police Office (Bundeskriminalamt) at Wiesbaden

* The Annual Report on Narcotic Drugs 2007, Abridged English Version, can be downloaded at: http://bka.de/lageberichte/rg/2007/drugs_annual_report_2007.pdf

* A English Version of a Report on "Geographical Behaviour of Strange Offenders n Violent Sexual Crimes" can be downloaded at: http://bka.de/lageberichte/weitere/engl_uebersetzung.pdf

REVIEWS

James Mehigan

Transformations of Policing. Edited by Alistair Henry and David J. Smith
(Aldershot: Ashgate, 2007, 336pp. {pound}55.00)
Br J Criminol 2008 48: 567-569; doi:10.1093/bjc/azn021.
<http://bjc.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/48/4/567?etoc>

Mary Corcoran

Handbook on Prisons. By Y. Jewkes, ed. (Willan, 2007, 778pp. {pound}75.00
hb, {pound}32.50 pb)
Br J Criminol 2008 48: 569-572; doi:10.1093/bjc/azn030.
<http://bjc.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/48/4/569?etoc>

Johnna Christian

Families Shamed: The Consequences of Crime for Relatives of Serious Offenders. By Rachel Condry (Cullompton: Willan Publishing, 2007, 219pp. {pound}42.00 hb)
Br J Criminol 2008 48: 572-575; doi:10.1093/bjc/azn033.
<http://bjc.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/48/4/572?etoc>

Phil Hubbard

Bar Wars. By Phil Hadfield (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007, 326pp)
Br J Criminol 2008 48: 575-577; doi:10.1093/bjc/azn032.
<http://bjc.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/48/4/575?etoc>

Layla Skinns

Community Safety: Critical Perspectives on Policy and Practice. Edited by Peter Squires (Bristol: Policy Press, 2006, vii + 255pp. {pound}22.99 pb)
Br J Criminol 2008 48: 577-580; doi:10.1093/bjc/azn036.
<http://bjc.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/48/4/577?etoc>

Kerry Baker

Effective Practice in Youth Justice. By Martin Stephenson, Henri Giller and Sally Brown (Cullompton: Willan Publishing, 2007, {pound}19.50 pb)
Br J Criminol 2008 48: 580-582; doi:10.1093/bjc/azn038.
<http://bjc.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/48/4/580?etoc>

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

2008

STOCKHOLM PRIZE IN CRIMINOLOGY SYMPOSIUM Stockholm, Sweden, June 2008. www.criminologysymposium.com

WORLD MULTI-CONFERENCE ON SYSTEMICS, CYBERNETICS AND INFORMATICS. 29TH June to 2nd July 2008. Orlando, Florida, USA. More information is available at <http://sciis.org/wm-sci08>.

XV WORLD CRIMINOLOGY CONGRESS OF THE ISC/SIC in Barcelona, Spain, July 2008.

<http://www.worldcongresscriminology.com/index.asp?pagina=presen&idioma=en>

22nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE REFORM OF CRIMINAL LAW. 11th-15th July 2008. Dublin, Ireland. More information is available at <http://www.isrcl.org> or e-mail: secretariat@isrcl.org

XI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PENAL ABOLITION. Creating a scandal- Prison abolition and the policy agenda. 23-25 July 2008 Kings College London

10th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF IATSO (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF SEXUAL OFFENDERS). “sexual Violence: Preventing through Offender Treatment and Public Policy” . Cape Town South Africa. 27-30 August 2008. e-mail Elisabeth.quendler@iatso.org

CONFERENCE ON POLICING IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Social Control on Contemporary Society - Practices and Research. September 24-26, 2008 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The conference is organised by the Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, University of Maribor, Slovenia. It is the seventh biennial conference on criminal justice and criminology issues. It is planned to publish the best conference papers and articles in a peer-reviewed journal and an edited book in English. By the way: the faculty is celebrating its 35th anniversary of studies in the fields of safety, security, criminology and criminal investigation in the week between September 22 and 26, 2008.

TOWARDS KNOWLEDGE LED POLICING AND SECURITY

A Conference hosted by the Department of Crime and Policing Studies, Canterbury Christ Church University. The Department of Crime and Policing Studies at Canterbury Christ Church University are hosting a two day international conference on the 10th and 11th September 2008 in the historic cathedral city of Canterbury. Further information about the conference, booking and the programme can be found at the conference website
<http://www.canterbury.ac.uk/business-sciences/crime-policing/policing-conference.asp>

1st AFRICAN POSTGRADUATE COURSE OF VICTIMOLOGY, VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE. In Cooperation

With The World Society of Victimology. 24 NOVEMBER - 6 DECEMBER 2008

MONASH SOUTH AFRICA. 144 Peter Road, Ruimsig, Johannesburg, South Africa

Phone: + 27 11 950 4000 Fax: + 27 11 950 4088. COURSE DIRECTORS:

Robert Peacock, Monash South Africa, Monash University.

2009

40th Anniversary: New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research

On 18-19 February 2009 my staff and I at the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) are hosting a two-day symposium in Sydney to celebrate our 40th anniversary. The symposium will focus on the contribution that research can make to criminal justice administration and law and order policy. I would like to warmly invite you to join us at what is bound to be a stimulating and thought provoking event. To complement our program of plenary speakers we are seeking abstract submissions from researchers working in the area. The email address to which this material should be sent is bocsar_symposium@agd.nsw.gov.au

Next International Police Executive Forum (IPES) at Lake Ohrid, Macedonia, June 9-14, 2009

The next IPES, hosted by the Ministry of the Interior, Republic of Macedonia, will deal with the following general topic: "Policing the Private Sector, Economic Development & Social Change: Contemporary Global Trends" More information is to be found at the following URL: <http://www.ipes.info/docs/PPRAAdfor09IPES.pdf>

WORLD SOCIETY OF VICTIMOLOGY (WSV) Symposium 2009. Tokiwa University, Japan. Theme: Victimology and Human Security. Dates: Third week of August 2009

UNIVERSITY NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF ZULULAND

Professor Phillip Potgieter, a founder member of the Criminological and Victimological Society of Southern Africa (CIMSA) has retired at the end of February 2008 after having served 46 years in the labour market: 16 years as a police officer and 30 years in the criminology/criminal justice departments of UNISA, UNITRA and UNIZUL, of which 18 years as Head of Department at both UNITRA and UNIZUL. He has attended a few overseas conferences (America, Hungary, Dubai, etc). He received a merit award at UNIZUL in 1995 when he produced four Master's and two Doctoral candidates at the same graduation ceremony. He was promoted to senior professor on 1 January 2006. He has now been appointed a research fellow at the University of Zululand. He plans to stay on at 10 Davies Crescent Empangeni 3880. His postal address is P.O. Box 12909 Empangeni 3880, Cell phone 0835342006. Anyone interested in joining him in research surveys are welcome to contact him.

CRIMINOLOGICAL & VICTIMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA (CRIMSA)

(est. 1987)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND/OR RENEWAL FORM

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HEREWITH APPLY FOR THE FOLLOWING CATEGORY OF CRIMSA MEMBERSHIP:
(Please tick ✓ the selected category)

Student membership (NB – only for undergraduate students)

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Conventional format: R200.00 (locally) or US\$115.00 internationally

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E-Journal: R650.00 (locally) or US\$90.00 internationally

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Note: All international members will pay the same membership fees as the other members in the respective categories for which they qualify provided that they receive the e-journal and newsletters (electronically) via Sabinet Online. However, should hard copies (conventional format) be required, a fee of R800.00 (US\$115.00) inclusive of postage and handling will be charged.

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Tel code & number (W):

Cellular/mobile:

Fax number:

E-mail address:

STUDENT MEMBERS:

Educational institution where registered:

Student number:

Qualification registered for:

Level:

ACTIVE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS:

Qualifications obtained

Institution

Year

Current Position:

Field(s) of research interest:

(Signature)

(Date)