institute of development studies

CURRICULUM VITAE
Tessa Lewin

Institute of Development Studies	E: t.lewin@ids.ac.uk
Library Road	T: +44 (0)7941388495
Brighton	W: www.ids.ac.uk/people/tessa-lewin
BN1 9RE	
UK	

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT:	Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies
LANGUAGES:	English (native); Spanish, French (fluent); Shona (basic)
THEMATIC EXPERTISE:	Gender; sexuality; participatory visual and creative methods; visual activism; child rights/participation; children/youth
GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE:	Southern Africa, Ghana, Uganda, Kenya, Egypt, Brazil, Bangladesh, BiH

OVERVIEW

Tessa Lewin is a Senior Research Fellow in the Participation, Inclusion and Social Change cluster at the Institute of Development Studies, where she co-convened the MA in Gender and Development from 2019-2023. She has 25+ years' experience using creative, participatory and visual methodologies, alongside other qualitative methods for research, teaching and research communication in community and development contexts. Her research focuses on gender politics, sexuality, visual activism and child rights. Her doctoral research investigated the nature of queer visual activism in South Africa. She is well known for her work as a creative facilitator, often with children and young people, and has worked on projects involving digital storytelling, photovoice, radio drama, animation, and participatory video. She led the communications work for Pathways of Women's Empowerment (2007-2012), during which she established the Real World documentary film scheme.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

2014 - 2019	**PhD in Media Studies** School of Media Studies, University of Brighton, UK Thesis title: *Queer Visual Activism in Contemporary South Africa*
2001 - 2004	**MADMI (Digital Moving Image)** London Metropolitan University, UK *Dissertation with Distinction*
1997	**BSocSci (Hons) in International and Comparative Politics** University of Cape Town, South Africa Dissertation title: *Youth, Masculinity and Violence in New Crossroads*
1994 – 1997	**BA (with Double Major) in Political Science and Art History** University of Cape Town, South Africa

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

2014 – PRESENT

Research Fellow, Participation, Inclusion and Social Change Cluster, Institute of Development Studies, UK
I currently teach across several of the Mas and have 5 PhD students. I lead the REJUVENATE project on participation and child rights. I co-lead the Policy and Policy and Practice strand for the *Countering the Gender Backlash* project (Sida-funded).

2012 – 2014

Portfolio Research Officer, Participation Team, Institute of Development Studies, UK
Projects included designing, managing and implementing a research and evaluation project for the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) in Bosnia and Herzegovina using visual methods; an action research project with the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF); an action research project with a group of black mental health service provision users in Brixton, UK.

2009 – 2012

Project-based Communication Manager, Pathways of Women's Empowerment Programme, Participation Team, Institute of Development Studies, UK
I managed Pathways' research communication team and supported the delivery of research communications work across the consortium, including training many of the researchers in research communication skills, and in the use of visual and creative methods in their research practice.

2007 – 2009

Communication and Learning Officer, Pathways of Women's Empowerment Programme, Participation Team, Institute of Development Studies, UK
During this time I set up and trained an international communication team for *Pathways* – in Ghana, Brazil, Bangladesh and Egypt, as well as founding the documentary film scheme 'Real World' and managing both internal and external communications for the consortium. We ran a number of 'communication and social change' initiatives including a series of photography competitions aimed at contesting popular representations of women's empowerment, and a series of digital storytelling workshops.

2005 – 2007

Digital Arts Project Manager, Lighthouse Arts and Training, Brighton, UK
I ran a vibrant digital arts programme at Lighthouse that included networking events, commissioning work, curating exhibitions, and developing and delivering industry-standard training courses for story boarders and animators.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2018 - PRESENT

Course Convenor, Module Convenor, Lecturer, Supervisor, Tutor Institute of Development Studies, UK

2006 - 2010

Tutor, School of Humanities, University of Brighton, UK
(Part Time)

2011 - 2013

Lecturer, MA Media and Development, University of Sussex, UK
(Occasional)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

Publications and Research Reports

Lewin, T.; Cannon, M.; Johnson, V.; Philip, R. and Raghavan, P. (2023) ***Participation For, With, and By Girls: Evidencing Impact***, REJUVENATE Working Paper 2, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 22 February 2024)

Jenzen, O. and Lewin, T. (2022) '**Global Queer and Feminist Activism: An Introduction**', *Journal of Cultural Analysis and Social Change* 7(2), DOI: 10.20897/jcasc/12750 (accessed 22 February 2024)

Shaw, J.; Amir, M. and Lewin, T., with Kemitare, J.; Diop, A.; Kithumbu, O.; Mupotsa, D. and Odiase, S. (2022) ***Contextualising Healing Justice as a Feminist Organising Framework in Africa***, IDS Working Paper 576, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 22 February 2024)

Lewin, T. (2022) '**Musings on Interdependence**', *Rights Studio*, 11 November (accessed 22 February 2024)

Lewin, T. (2022) '**#Fuckwhitepeople: Dean Hutton's 'Decolonial Gesture' as Critical Digital Citizenship**', MAI Feminism, 25 June (accessed 22 February 2024)

Lewin, T. (2021) '**Nothing is as it Seems: 'Discourse Capture' and Backlash Politics**', *Gender and Development* 29(2-3): 253-268, DOI: 10.1080/13552074.2021.1977047 (accessed 22 February 2024)

Johnson, V.; Lewin, T. and Cannon, M. (2020) ***Learning from a Living Archive: Rejuvenating Child and Youth Rights and Participation***, REJUVENATE Working Paper 1, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 22 February 2024)

Roelen, K.; Barnett, I.; Johnson, V.; Lewin, T.; Thorsen, D. and Ton, G. (2020) ***Understanding Children's Harmful Work: A Review of the Methodological Landscape***, ACHA Working Paper 3, Brighton: Action on Children's Harmful Work in African Agriculture, IDS (accessed 22 February 2024)

Lewin, T. (2019) '**Queer Visual Activism in Contemporary South Africa**', PhD dissertation, University of Brighton (accessed 22 February 2024)

Lewin, T. (2017) '**Book Review: Gubrium, Aline, Krista Harper & Marty Otañez (eds). Participatory visual and Digital Research In Action**', *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 23(1):227-227, DOI: 10.1111/1467-9655.12586 (accessed 22 February 2024)

Lewin, T., Williams, K. and Thomas, K. (2013) '**A Progressive Constitution Meets Lived Reality: Sexuality and the Law in South Africa**', IDS Evidence Report 7, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 22 February 2024)

Lewin, T.; Harvey, B. and Page, S. (2012) '**New Roles for Communication in Development?**', *IDS Bulletin* 43.5 (accessed 22 February 2024)

Lewin, T.; Harvey, B. and Fisher, C. (2012) '**Introduction: Is Development Research Communication Coming of Age?**' IDS Bulletin 43.5: 1-8, DOI: **10.1111/j.1759-5436.2012.00356.x** (accessed 22 February 2024)

Lewin, T. and Patterson, Z. (2012) '**Approaches to Development Research Communication**', *IDS Bulletin* 43.5: 34-48, DOI: **10.1111/j.1759-5436.2012.00361.x** (accessed 22 February 2024)

Lewin, T. (2012) '**Real World: Empowering Representations of Women through Film**', *IDS Bulletin* 43.5: 110-116, DOI: **10.1111/j.1759-5436.2012.00371.x** (accessed 22 February 2024)

Lewin, T. (2011) '**Digital Storytelling**', *Participatory Learning and Action* 63: 54-62 (accessed 22 February 2024)

Hawkins, K.; Cornwall, A. and Lewin, T. (2011) '**Sexuality and Empowerment: An Intimate Connection**', Pathways Policy Paper, Brighton: Pathways of Women's Empowerment RPC (accessed 23 February 2024)

Lewin, T. (2008) '**The Key(board) to Equality**', *The Guardian*, 20 December (accessed 23 February 2024)

Books and Book Chapters

Chambers, R. and Lewin, T. (forthcoming) *Reflecting Forewords*, Rugby: Practical Action Publishing

Johnson, V.; Lewin, T. and West, A. (forthcoming) *Voices of Activists and Academics: Working with Children in Communities*, Rugby: Practical Action Publishing

Lewin, T. and Jenzen, O. (2020) 'Queer Visual Activism', in D. Lilleker and A. Veneti (eds), *Edward Elgar Research Handbook in Visual Politics*, London: Edward Elgar

Lewin, T. (2020) 'Queer Visual Activism in South Africa', in A. McGarry, I. Erhart, H. Elsen-Ziya, O. Jensen and U. Korkut (eds), *The Aesthetics of Global Protest: Visual Culture and Communication*, Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press

Lewin, T. (2020) 'Beyond the Frame: Zanele Muholi's Queer Visual Activism', in D. Newbury, L. Rizzo and K. Thomas (eds), *Women and Photography in Africa: Creative Practices and Feminist Challenges*, London: Routledge

Lewin, T. and Shaw, J. (2020) 'Visual and Performative Inquiry Processes' in D. Burns, J. Howard and S. Ospina (eds), *Sage Handbook of Participatory Research*, London: SAGE

Cannon, M. and Lewin, T. (2020) 'Edited Interview with Robert Chambers', in D. Burns, J. Howard and S. Ospina (eds), Sage Handbook of Participatory Research, London: SAGE