



INTERNATIONAL AND CANADIAN CHILD RIGHTS PARTNERSHIP (ICCRP)

SAVE

25 MAY 2024

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REGISTER NOW >

An Intergenerational Advisory Committee Roundtable Discussion: Exploring Decolonization in Children's Rights

The ICCRP's second virtual roundtable will feature children, young people, and adults from our Intergenerational Advisory Committee. We warmly invite all young people, researchers, partner organizations, universities, human rights institutions, governments, and anyone interested in children's rights and respecting young people's participation in practice.

This event is being held on a Saturday to allow for increased participation from children and young people. Join us for an exciting, insightful, and engaging event! Click to register: [here](#).

Toronto	Rio De Janeiro	Edinburgh	Cape Town / Paris
11:00 AM	12:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM

Children and Society Special Issue Launch Event

Join us in celebrating the launch of a new special issue of the *Children and Society* journal, dedicated to conceptualizing, and researching child and youth activism!

Co-edited by Laura Wright, Emma Davidson, Kristina Konstantoni, Marlies Kustatscher, Karina Padilla, and Kay Tisdall from the University of Edinburgh, this issue features 15 exceptional papers from scholars, practitioners, and peer researchers engaged in activist research worldwide.

[Register here!](#)



Update on the ICCRP's 2024 Partnership and Engagement Event



The ICCRP is excited to be hosting its first Partnership and Engagement in-person event this July 2024 in Ontario, Canada!

This event will bring together members from the ICCRP's Intergenerational Advisory Committee, Steering Committee, and dedicated research support staff. We will be gathering at a small event venue located in nature, with the objectives of facilitating relational engagement, enabling space and activities for young people meaningfully impact the research design, and gathering partnership momentum through face-to-face interactions.

Due to event space and budgetary limitations, we are regrettably unable to open our event to all valued members of the ICCRP. However, we are planning a week-long series of virtual partnership events in November 2024 that will be open to all. More information to come soon!

If you have any questions or concerns, please email the ICCRP's Project Manager, Steven Gibson, at steven.gibson@torontomu.ca.

Participatory Methods Working Group Seminar

On December 14, 2023, the Participatory Methods Working Group, in partnership with Dr. Kristen Cheney, Dr. Neziwa Titi, Annah Kamusiime, Shirat Kabuye, Tahirah Kikome, and Joanita Nalubwama, hosted a webinar entitled: Decolonising Participatory Methods with Children and Young People. The event was well attended and we're very grateful for all of those who participated. A recording of the event is accessible [HERE](#).

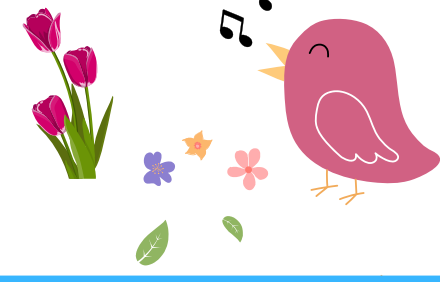
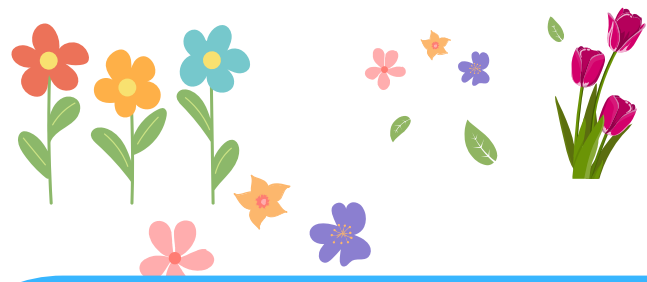
We are also appreciative of a number of Participatory Methods Working Group members who have contributed to a participatory curriculum for young co-researchers engaged in one of the ICCRP's case studies.

A spring time webinar is also forthcoming!





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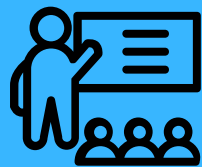


OACYC Keynote Presentation

On October 29, 2023, Tara Collins, Steven Gibson, Sheldon Caruana, Sachi Shukul, and three Canadian young people from the ICCRP's Intergenerational Committee presented a virtual keynote at the Ontario Association of Child and Youth Care (OACYC) conference: *Exploring Challenges and Opportunities in Intergenerational Rights-Based Relationships: Lessons from the ICCRP.*

The OACYC is dedicated to the professionalization of Child and Youth Care by providing Child and Youth Care Practitioners with high ethical practice standards, advocating for recognition and growth of the profession, and supporting the professional development of practitioners, children and youth.

It was a pleasure to contribute to their important work!



12th National Conference on the Rights of Children and Adolescents in Brasília

The 12th National Conference on the Rights of Children and Adolescents event took place from April 2-4, 2024 in Brasília.

Irene Rizzini (CIESPI's Director and Professor at PUC-Rio) and Gustavo Gomes (research assistant at CIESPI/PUC-Rio, a member of the South Fluminense Youth Forum, and Levante Popular da Juventude) presented the project "Youth Participation and Protagonism in Brazil: A Study in the South Fluminense Region of Rio de Janeiro" as part of their ICCRP work.

Irene and Gustavo also distributed two documents produced by the research team based on the experiences of participation and protagonism of the young people in South Fluminense. This included the "Practical Guide to Protagonism for Children and Adolescents" and the document "Recommendations to Municipal Councils for the Rights of Children and Adolescents (CMDCA) on Child and Youth Participation".

More information about the event, the project and the publications can be found at <https://en.ciespi.org.br>.



The Children's Institute at the University of Cape Town hosts a dotmocracy workshop with the Western Cape Commissioner for Children

On January 15-16, 2024, the Children's Institute at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, hosted a workshop with the Western Cape Commissioner for Children's (WCCC) child government monitors. The workshop was aimed at designing and planning the Participatory Action Research that the WCCC is currently planning with the ICCRP. The program included research method activities, and the crowd favourites were the body maps, and dotmocracy. The former involved the participants drawing outlines of themselves and writing what makes them activists. This activity resonated with many, showcasing "everyone's personal growth not only as a person but as an activist" according to John-Lee, one of the participants.



"showcasing everyone's personal growth not only as a person but as an activist"
- John-Lee



Witnessing the newfound confidence in speaking out for themselves and others was a key takeaway. The dotmocracy method activity asked participants to identify whether certain challenges were a high priority within their respective communities was also a standout activity. This collaborative approach fostered empathy and understanding, highlighting the common threads of struggle that connect them despite differing realities. The most enjoyable activity among many was the "Laduma research goals" as it allowed for some fun-filled healthy competition. The group was tasked with writing down goals that they have for the research and then were divided into teams of two. These two teams then had to go against each other to "score" these goals like one would in a soccer match, signifying a commitment to achieving the goals. Participants described the joy of writing what they wanted to see and using those goals to create a shared vision. "It kind of felt like you guys were saying we are going to achieve these goals" Lilitha shared, highlighting the empowering message. The workshop provided the young people with tools that will aid them on their research journey and beyond.



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Congratulations to the CIESPI-PUC-RIO Undergraduate Award Winner: *Priscila Alves*

On September 29, 2023, during the XXXI Scientific and Technological Initiation Seminar at PUC-Rio, Priscila Alves, who is an undergraduate student in the Department of Social Work and member of the CIESPI/PUC-Rio team, received an honourable mention for presenting one of the four best research projects in the Social Sciences.

Priscila Alves was supervised by Professor Irene Rizzini as part of the ICCRP's work in Brazil. The project focuses on analyzing the participation of adolescents and young people in the promotion and protection of their rights. The project also analyzes intergenerational relationships built in decision-making processes, and political advocacy spaces. Congratulations and amazing work!



Photo: Priscila Alves (left) & Dr. Irene Rizzini (right) holding their award plaque

Congratulations to *Sachi Shukul*!



Our very own Child and Youth Participant Coordinator, *Sachi Shukul*, received the Isabella and Oscar Zacharias Undergraduate Research Award from Toronto Metropolitan University.

This award promotes and recognises outstanding research, and high academic achievement. She was recognised for her amazing work and dedication to the ICCRP!

If you would like to read more about Sachi's amazing contributions to research, and some helpful tips for students interested in getting involved in research, she has been featured on the TMU Faculty of Community Services website found [here](#).

Welcome Our New Post-Doc *Dr. Sarah Ciotti*

The ICCRP welcomes our new Postdoctoral Researcher, [Dr. Sarah Ciotti](#). Sarah comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and practical experience. We are so grateful for the valuable contributions Sarah has made, and will continue to make, to the ICCRP.

Great to have you on board, Sarah!



ICCRP Case Study Updates

- Jane Kovarikova and Dr. Tara Collins received ethics approval from Toronto Metropolitan University's (TMU) Research Ethics Board (REB), and have begun recruitment for Case Study 1b "Intergenerational Relationships, Lived Experiences, and Ontario Child Welfare Policy and Practices".
- Professor Kay Tisdall, Dr. Laura Wright, and the Children's Parliament team in Scotland have received ethics approval for their Child and Youth Activism Project work (CS 2b). They are now beginning to work with a group of Children's Human Rights Defenders, their families, and government stakeholders.
- Dr. Irene Rizzini and her dedicated team at CIESPI, have begun collaborating with a school in Rio de Janeiro to deliver child rights activism curriculum within a classroom. The CIESPI team hopes to engage a group of young people who are interested in their Child and Youth Activism Project work (CS 2b).
- Lucy Jamieson has received ethics approval from the University of Cape Town's Human Research Ethics Committee and TMU's REB for her research "Child Rights Focal Points in South Africa" (CS3a). Please see the feature on page two of this newsletter for more details on their work so far.
- Policy Working Group co-leads, Dr. Natasha Blanchet-Cohen and Dr. Holly Doel-Mackaway have received research ethics approval from Concordia University, and Macquarie University. They are awaiting final approval from TMU's REB before moving forward with their work to consider the policy implications of the ICCRP's various case studies.

ICCRP Colleagues' Recent Publications



- Almeida, L., Collins, T., Heynes, D-J., Jamieson, L., Rizzini, I., & Walsh, S. (2023). Affecting Change in Different Contexts: Children's Participation in Social and Public Policy Dialogues in Brazil, Canada, and South Africa, in B. Percy-Smith, N.P. Thomas, C. O'Kane, & A. Twum-Danso Imoh (Eds.). *A Handbook of Children and Young People's Participation*, 179-185, Routledge. See further [here](#).
- Collins, T. M., & Gibson, S. W. (2023). How Businesses Can Assess the Impacts of Their Charitable Activities on the Rights of Children and Youth. *Youth*, 3, 913-934. <https://doi.org/10.3390/youth3030059>
- Davidson, E., Wright, L., & Roesch-Marsh, A. (2024). The Space Before, the Space Beyond: Activism, Relationships and Social Change in the Neo-Liberal Academy. *Children & Society*, 38(3), 874-891. <https://doi.org/10.1111/chso.12838>
- Finn, S., Wright, L.H.V., Waen, K., Astroom, E., Nicholls, L., Dingle, G., Warran, K. (2023). Advancing the social cure: a mixed-methods approach exploring the role of online group dance as support for young people (aged 16-24) living with anxiety. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 14, 1258967.
- Manion, K., Wright, L. H.V, Currie, V., & Lee, L. (2023). Creative and participatory methods for bolstering violence prevention in schools in South East Europe through shifting social and gender norms. *Intersections. East European Journal of Society and Politics*, 9(2), 72-88. <https://doi.org/10.17356/ieejsp.v9i2.1117>
- Tisdall, E. K. M., Clarkson, E., & McNair, L. J. (2024). Child-Led Research with Young Children: Challenging the Ways to Do Research. *Social Sciences*, 13(9), <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci13010009>.
- Tisdall, E. K. M., Davis, J. M., Fry, D., Konstantoni, K., Kustatscher, M., Maternowska, M. C. and Weiner, L. (2023). *Critical Childhood Studies: Global Perspectives*. London: Bloomsbury.
- Trbus, M., Zecevic, I., Wright, L.H.V. (2023). Perspectives of children and young people from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina on their role in challenging perceived social and gender norms impacting school related gender-based violence. Special Issue: Perspectives of the Child. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 150, 107000.
- Warran, K., Wright, L.H.V. (2023). Online 'chats' fostering communitas and psychosocial support for people working across art and play for health and wellbeing. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 14, 1198635.
- Wright, L. H. V., Devoy, H., Gardner, G., & Warran, K. (2024). Arts and Mental Health Co-Research with Youth Advisors: The Role of Emotions, Creating Community, Learning and Growth. Special Issue: Coproduction in Child and Adolescent Mental Health. *Youth*, 4(1), 135-148. <https://www.mdpi.com/2673-995X/4/1/10>
- Wright, L. H. V., Rizzini, I., Gwele, M., McNair, L., Porto, C. L., Orgill, M., Tisdall, E. K. M., Bush, M., Biersteker, L. (2023). Conceptualising Quality Early Childhood Education: Learning from Young Children in Brazil and South Africa Through Creative and Play-based Methods. *British Educational Research Journal*, DOI: 10.1002/berj.3940



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