

The BGU Center for Women's Health Studies and Promotion

Annual Report – December 2008



"A distorted reality"- Eti Sarid Moran

"Women in Center Frame-2008"



Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב

THE BGU CENTER FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH STUDIES
AND PROMOTION
ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008

1. **Name of the Center:** THE BGU CENTER FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH STUDIES AND PROMOTION
2. **Center Directors:** Prof. Julie Cwikel, Dr. Dorit Segal-Engelchin, PhD, Spitzer Department of Social Work, Deputy Director
3. **Center Advisory Board**
Prof. Moshe Justman, Ph.D, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Prof. Moti HersHKovitz , Vice President and Dean of Research and Development
Prof. Shaul Sofer, MD, Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences

Prof. Aya Biderman, MD, Family Medicine
Dr. David Geffen, MD, Oncology, Soroka
Dr. Esther Iecovitz, PhD, Dept. of Gerontology, Faculty of Health Sciences
Prof. Golan Shahar, Ph.D. Dept. of Behavioral Sciences
Dr. Hagit Perez, Department of Epidemiology
Prof. Ilana Harman-Boehm, MD, Internal Medicine
Prof. Ilana Shoham-Vardi Ilana, PhD, Department of Epidemiology
Prof. Judy Auerbach, Ph.D. Dept. of Behavioral Sciences
Dr. Naama Atzba-Poria, Ph.D. Dept. of Behavioral Science
Ms. Naomi Graetz, MA, Dept. of English as a Foreign Language
Dr. Noah Liel, MD, Cardiology
Ms. Nurit Barak, BA, Faculty of Health Sciences
Prof. Ora Kaufmann, PhD, Department of Behavioral Sciences
Ms. Orly Leiberman, MARN, Senior Teacher, Recanati, School of Nursing
Dr. Orly Sarid, Ph.D. Dept. of Social Work
Dr. Rivka Berger, MD, Internal and Behavioral Medicine
Prof. Robert Marks, Ph.D. Biotechnology
Ms. Sheila Warshawsky, MS, Faculty of Health Sciences
Ms. Sheryl Mendlinger, Northeastern University, International Relations
Dr. Vera Fried, MD, Geriatrics

4. **Center Steering Committee**

Dr. Aya Biderman, MD, Family Medicine

Dr. Dorit Segal–Engelchin, PhD, Department of Social Work

Dr. Hagit Perez, Department of Epidemiology

Prof. Ilana Harman-Boehm, MD, Internal Medicine

Prof. Ilana Shoham-Vardi, Ph.D., Epidemiology

Prof. Judy Auerbach, Ph.D., Representative of the Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences

Prof. Julie Cwikel, PhD, Department of Social Work

Ms. Nurit Barak, BA, Faculty of Health Sciences

Ms. Orly Leiberman, MARN, Senior Teacher, Recanati, School of Nursing

Dr. Orly Sarid, Ph.D. Dept. of Social Work

Ms. Sheila Warshawsky, MS, Faculty of Health Sciences

Report on Center Activities December 2008

Ongoing Psychosocial Research

Fertility, technology and psychosocial intervention – This project combines biology and psychosocial intervention in order to increase fertility and decrease the need for invasive procedures such as IVF. Prof. Julie Cwikel, Dr. Orly Sarid and Dr. Iris Harvadi, a clinical biologist are part of this research team in collaboration of Prof. Eitan Lunenfeld, from Soroka University Medical Center, Director of Gynecology and Obstetrics. A new PhD student, Johanna Czamanski is the research coordinator on a grant from the Ministry of Health. In August, Prof. Cwikel and Dr. Sarid spent a week in Denmark at Herning Hospital and Holstebro University in working together with Prof. Finn Lauszus, a research gynecologist and his staff of 15 nurses and psychologists. Together they taught a week-long course on developing psychological interventions for women with infertility problems. Included in this group were three psychologists from Mainz University of Germany who are collaborating with our research team and the Danish team.

Origins of and Influences on Women's Health Behaviors: Examining Intergenerational and Multi-cultural Effects - This project was funded by the Ministry of Science, Culture and Sport and yielded a rich set of qualitative and quantitative data. Analysis of these findings continues by Ms. Sheryl Mendlinger and Prof. Julie Cwikel and four articles have been published so far (see publications at the end of this document). Last summer an additional data set of American Jewish mothers and daughters was added through a Scholar-in-Residence Grant to Prof. Cwikel from Hadassah-Brandeis Institute at Brandeis University in Waltham, MA. We are working on an analysis of how women resist eating disorders through developing a positive body image and other articles.

The Hetero-gay Family Structure: Parental Coping Patterns – We continue to analyze this data on this unique family structure based on interviews with parents raising in the hetero-gay family structure. Analysis of these data continues under the leadership of Dr. Dorit Segal-Engelchin and with the collaboration of Prof. Pauline Erera of the University of Washington and Prof. Julie Cwikel.

The Impact of Different Types of Stressors and Coping Styles on Women's Health- This study, conducted by Prof. Julie Cwikel and Dr. Dorit Segal-Engelchin, examined the contribution of diverse sources of stressors (e.g. stressors in daily life, stressors associated with the security situation) and coping styles to understanding women's health status. This study has been presented at conferences and is now under consideration for publication. Together with Dr. Orly Sarid, we are now analyzing the impact of stressors on women's experiences in pregnancy, childbirth and during the post-partum period.

Research Project in Occupational Health

In conjunction with Dr. Meirav Taib-Maimon and Dr. Bracha Shapiro, from the Department of Information Systems Engineering and with Dr. Barbara Rosenstein, an expert on video evaluation, and Dr. Ella Kordish from occupational health and epidemiology, we received a grant from Ministry of Industry and Commerce to develop video and computer based technology for the prevention of work-related musculoskeletal disorders among workers who spend many hours of the day working at a computer workstation, a high proportion of whom are women. We are now conducting the pilot research in order to expand the experiment to women and men in the work place.

Ongoing Medical Research

Specifying the Cognitive Dysfunctions associated with chemotherapy in breast cancer- an exploratory study. This study, funded by an internal grant from the Faculty of Medical Sciences has validated a unique method for the evaluation of cognitive deficits associated with chemotherapy among breast cancer patients. This work, in conjunction with Dr. David Geffen and Prof. Samuel Ariad from the Dept. of Oncology at Soroka University Medical Center and Ms. Yifat Faran from the Dept. of Behavioral Sciences seeks to address a burdensome problem to cancer survivors. Ms. Svetlana Mazankin from Educational Psychology has joined this research team and started to collect prospective data for her Ph.D. thesis.

Whitman Scholarship Program- 2008

This year we have received 8 proposals for research grants for graduate students from both the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. The proposals were reviewed by leading researchers and scientists in the respective fields. Four winners have been announced.

This year's prize winners include:

1. The experience of young women who have significant relationships with Bedouin men.

Researcher: Cohen Sarit, MSW student.

Supervisor: Dr. Michal Krumer-Nevo, Dept. of Social-Work, Ben Gurion University.

2. The pregnancy and delivery of women with FMF (Mediterranean Familial Fever Syndrome).

Researcher: Tammy Ziony, 6th year medical student.

Supervisor: Dr. Eyal Sheiner, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Soroka Hospital; Prof. Dan Buskila, Internal Medicine Dept., Soroka Hospital.

3. Patterns of utilization of a new service, run by a registered nurse for prenatal health education of Bedouin mothers in the Negev and compliance with genetic testing.

Researcher: Rasmia Abu-Rabia, MPH student, Dept. of Epidemiology.

Supervisor: Prof. Ilana Shoam-Vardi, Dept. of Epidemiology, Ben-Gurion University; Dr. Ohad Birk, The National Center for Biotechnology in the Negev, Ben-Gurion University; Dr. Dalia Weitzman, Dept. of Epidemiology.

4. The significance of family purity practices for religious women.

Researcher: Hagit Rodriguez-Garsia (Doitsh), MSW student.

Supervisor: Prof. Lea Kacen, Dept. of Social-Work, Ben Gurion University.

New Doctoral Students

- Ms. Johanna Czamanski is a returning Israeli who is a trained art therapist. She is being supervised by Dr. Orly Sarid, Prof. Julie Cwikel and Dr. Iris Harvadi on the relationship between stress, DNA integrity, and the physiological effects of cognitive behavioral interventions in women undergoing in-vitro fertilization
- Ms. Tzipi Hurnik has a strong background in quantitative research as a teacher of statistics and SPSS at Bar Ilan University. She will be conducting her research on the policy and implications of high use of primary care health care system for psychological problems conducting a secondary analysis of the High Users data set that was collected in conjunction with researchers at the Falk Institute

New Academic Initiative

This year we began to explore the opening of an international program in women's health from a global, cross-cultural perspective together with a group of Health Care Researchers from Northeastern University in Boston, MA, led by Prof. Hortensia Amaro. This proposed joint program will be a Master's of Public Health taught in English and offered through the Ben Gurion University Faculty of Medical Sciences. A delegation including Prof. Hortensia Amaro, Dr. Shan Mohammed and Dr. Alisa Lincoln conducted meetings with BGU administration, researchers and experts from the field in women's health during Jan. 2008. Participating in the week's activities were: Prof. Ilana Shoham-Vardi, Dr. Nadav Davidovitz and Dr. Itamar Grotto from Epidemiology, Ms. Orly Leiberman from Nursing, and Dr. Dorit Segal-Engelchin, Dr. Orly Sarid and Prof. Julie Cwikel, Ms. Ilana Meallem from the Center and Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, MD from Gaza, Ms. Rosa Naveh from Sderot and Ms. Nirit Bar from MASLAN. At present we are working on a joint research project on indicators of discrimination and health.



**Left to right: Nirit Segal, Prof. Hortensia Amaro, Prof. Julie Cwikel,
Ms. Orly Liberman, Ms. Nur Shemi and Ms. Mati Talmon**

Visitors to the Center

Prof. Phyllis Silverman, a world renowned expert on grief and bereavement and Emeritus Professor from Brandeis University and Harvard Medical School visited here in Jan. She met with mental health experts and students from Ben Gurion University and Sapir College and presented new treatment concepts to improve interventions.



The Center staff with Prof. Silverman (sitting on the left)

Visitors come in Families too...

The Myerstein Family

Shaanan Myerstein, is a medical student at the BGU Medical School for International Health in collaboration with Columbia University Medical University. When his parents, **Israela** and **Michael** were planning a visit to Israel in February, 2008, he helped to coordinate two seminars, one on treatment issues for women and the other on fund raising. **Ms. Israela Myerstein**, MSW, LCSW-C, a family therapist in private practice in Baltimore, Maryland gave a seminar to staff, therapists and students on "**Women In Couple Relationships: A Systemic Approach**" and shared with us her expertise, insights from her years of practice and a training video on working with couples.

Mr. P. Michael Myerstein, C.F.R.E, President of the Aleph Group, a fundraising consulting firm in Baltimore, gave a seminar to Center staff on fundraising techniques.



Ms. Israela Myerstein, on the far left of the photo, giving a seminar to staff and students at the Center.



Mr. Michael Myerstein with Prof. Julie Cwikel

The Adler Family



Ms. Betty Adler (sitting, right) from the Washington, D.C. area visited in July with her father, Dr. Fred Adler (sitting, left) and her sister, Maggie Adler (sitting, center). Betty, a professional photographer, served as a professional judge for the photography exhibit "Women in Center Frame" that was held in Sept. 2008.

2008 RESEARCH AND PROJECT PROPOSALS

Title	Submitted to	Amount	Status
"Em le Em" –Mother to Mother – Peer support for new mothers	Federation in Birmingham Alabama	\$3,000	Granted
Developing Integrated Waste Recycling Systems for Agricultural and Environmental Safety Purposes in Rural Communities in Jordan and Israel (Collaborators: The Arava Institute, the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) and <i>Queen Rania</i> Al-Abdullah <i>Center</i> for Environmental Science & Technology" (QRACEST).	USAID –MERC Program	\$100,000 per year	Full proposal submitted and under review
Environmental health activists among Bedouin women of the Negev	Buckminster Fuller Initiative	\$100,000	One of three finalists out of 250
Environmental health activists among Bedouin women of the Negev	Private Donor	\$5,000	Granted
The prevention of work-related musculoskeletal disorders among frequent users of computers through the use of video techniques	Ministry of Industry and Technology, Occup. Health	\$130,000	Granted – second year
Determining the relationship between stress, DNA integrity, and the physiological effects of cognitive behavioral interventions in women undergoing in-vitro fertilization with the collaboration of Mainz University, Germany.	German Israel Fund for Scientific Research and Development	600,000 EURO	Submitted
Preventing child abuse by the Mom to Mom program	Machon Haruv	\$37,000	Submitted
The Women's Mental Health Promotion Project – Establishing a Treatment, Research and Teaching Center	Private Donor	\$100,000	Pending
Empowerment in the Periphery: an advocacy incubator for professionals working with women who are economically disadvantaged	Hadassah Foundation	\$36,000	Not granted
Addressing the cognitive impairment of women with breast cancer	Fund for the Oncology Patient	\$10,000	Submitted

Community Health Promotion Projects

Continuing Project – Em le Em – Mom to Mom

This is the third year we are running a unique volunteer project modeled after a most successful program that started in Boston and has been running in Jerusalem under the direction of Dr. Marsha Kaitz, a developmental psychologist of Hebrew University. Veteran mothers receive volunteer training to provide one-on-one support on a weekly basis through home visits to mothers who feel that they do not have adequate support in the first year after the birth of a newborn. When we support new mothers, we help them foster healthy child development for the next generation. This project trained 17 groups of volunteers, have done over 200 home visits to birthing mothers and matched volunteers to 130 birthing mothers since the project's beginning in 2006. There are currently 26 active mother-volunteer pairs. We are helping to establish Em le Em programs in Arad and the Western Negev area (Ofakim, Sderot).



The 15th Training Group in Mom to Mom

Biogas for Unrecognized Bedouin Villages

A Biogas Digester recycles organic material (human/animal waste) into renewable energy for lighting, cooking and heating. This pilot project will be implemented in several unrecognized Negev villages that lack access to sewage treatment. This community-wide project will be primarily implemented by women who will learn to build, maintain and document the process. They will also learn to use the gas safely for home use in lieu of the traditional open fire cooking. This economically viable source of energy can provide future business opportunities. This collaborative project is being run together with Bustan, an NGO working in the Bedouin sector, the Arava Institute and professionals from the Blaustein Institute of Desert Research. Ms. Ilana Meallem and Mr. Mazen Zoabi continue to work in this project. In early 2008, the team hired Dr. Shlomo Kimchie a technological consultant from the Technion who has developed an integrated design for the waste recycling system.

***** View the video on this project *****

Those interested can view a promotional video that was made on the Bedouin Biogas Project with the support of BGU. The link is:

<http://cmsprod.bgu.ac.il/Eng/home/News/Biogas.htm>.



Ilana Meallem

Isha Be-Shela – A woman in a place of her own – a new Women's Counseling Project in the Negev

This August we started a new project called "Isha Be-Shela" – the first counseling center for women in the Negev. While feminist treatment centers exist in Haifa, Jerusalem and the Tel Aviv region for the past twenty years, there such a center to serve the women of the Negev. A group of 15 therapists of all different backgrounds (psychology, social work, art therapy) have started working in both group and individual practice with women of all walks of life from the Negev (Beer Sheva, Arad, Sderot). Most of the therapists are graduates of Ben Gurion University and are now engaging in in-service training on women's mental health and treatment. The clinical director, Ms. Andrea Ifergane has many years of experience in psychiatry and has worked in the Ministry of Defense counseling men and women soldiers. Ms. Nurit Badash, with experience in community projects for women and management, joined the staff as the project administrator. This coming May 2009 we anticipate the visit of Prof. Laura Brown, a leading US psychologist who trains therapists working with women.



Left to right: Ms. Nurit Badash, Ms. Andrea Ifergane

The Third National Conference on Promoting Mental Health Among Women

On September 24-25th, 2008, the Center held the Third National Conference on Promoting Mental Health Among Women – Developing Evidence Based Practice. The conference included a day of scientific presentations of new research and a day of workshops where practitioners from the field presented new interventions modes. The opening plenary lecture was delivered by Prof. Judith Worell, emeritus Professor of Women's Psychology from the University of Kentucky, USA and the editor of the "Handbook of girls' and women's psychological health (2005). She gave an excellent overview lecture entitled "Are feminist interventions still relevant today?"



Prof. Judith Worell

An additional guest speaker from abroad at the conference was Dr. Diane Morse, MD, whose visit was made possible with the support of the US Department of State Bureau of International Information Programs. She spoke about developing programs to identify and treat women who are victims of domestic violence based on focus groups held in Israel and in Jordan with Arab-speaking women. Her co-presenters were Samah Salaime-Egbariay, MSW (Israeli Arab), and additional co-investigators are Yael Paldi, MD, (Israeli), Manal Shahrouri, BSc (Jordanian), and Cari Jo Clark, Ph.D. (US).

Parallel panels were held on the following topics: Mental Health and Psychiatric Services for Treating Mental Disorders, Women at Work and in particular in the Security System (IDF), Women and Fertility, Motherhood, Pregnancy and Delivery, Multi-Culturalism and the Changing Israeli Society, Eating Disorders and their Treatment, Violence against Women, Mind-Body Treatment of Women, Mental Health and Gender-Sensitive Treatment, Feminist Treatment and Other Treatment Methods, Coping with Breast Cancer, Sexuality, Post-partum depression and Chronic Illnesses among Women. In addition, there was a very interesting panel discussion organized by Dr. Max Lachman and Prof. David Roeh from University of Haifa on Motherhood as part of the rehabilitation process among women with psychiatric disorders.

Workshops were held on the second day on similar topics with the addition of working with creative therapies, dealing with physical pain, theatre in treatment, community work with women and aspects of mental health treatment with women.

Approximately 300 mental health professionals, educators, faculty members, physicians, nurses, and students attended the conference.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

IN HONOR OF THE MEMORY OF MS. FREDA PALTIEL

Accompanying the Conference was a unique Photography Exhibit called “Women in Center Frame” with a collection of over 50 photographs submitted by 23 women photographers from all over Israel. The photographs reflected women’s view the complexities of women coping with the challenges of Israel in 2008. This exhibit was made possible in part by a generous contribution from the children of Ms. Freda Paltiel (z”l) who was an advisor to the Center in its first years. As advisor to the Canadian Government on Women’s Health, Freda was a great source of information and inspiration to all those who knew her. The opening ceremony was a very moving event as it brought together photographers and women’s health activists. Copies of the catalogue are still available.

Hochberg, M. and **Cwikel, J.** (editors) (2008). Women in Center Frame. Artist’s Catalogue to accompany the 3rd National Conference on Promoting Women’s Mental Health, Sept. 2008, Center for Women’s Health Studies and Promotion, Ben Gurion University of the Negev.



Left to right: Prof. Mark Clarfield, Mr. Ari Paltiel, Prof. Ora Clarfield-Paltiel, a portrait of Freda Paltiel, Prof. Julie Cwikel, Ms. Michal Hochberg, Ms. Nirit Segal



Left to right: Prof. Mark Clarfield, Prof. Ora Clarfield-Paltiel, Mr. Ari Paltiel, Ms. Sylvia Roytman (The 1st prize winner), Prof. Julie Cwikel



All the photographers with the Center staff

Professional and Community Activities of Center Researchers and Scholars (in alphabetical order)

Prof. Cwikel Julie

Courses Taught

Gender, health and multi-culturalism, BSW Program, 2nd year

Conducting women's health promotion in the community, MA Program in Social Work

Module on International Aspects of Women's Health for the Columbia Program in Medicine

Publications – Chapters in Books

Ben-Harush, Y., Cwikel, J. & Ronen, Y. (2008) Trafficking in young women and the question of consent. Human Rights and Social Exclusion in Israel. (Ronen, Y. , Slonim-Nevo, V. & Doron, I. eds.) Tel-Aviv: Ramot p. 255-278 (Hebrew).

Huss, E. & **Cwikel**, J. (2008). Art as a speech act for impoverished Bedouin women. in (Wiener N. and Abu-Rabia S., eds.), Arab Women: Sites of Resistance. Van Lear Publication, in press.

Huss E., **Cwikel**, J. (2008) Qualitative critical arts based research: Using art as a speech act for Bedouin women. in (Kacen L. and Nevo M. eds), Qualitative Research in Israel (accepted for publication).

Cwikel, J. & Ifrah, A. (2008) The epidemiology of women's mental health in Israel: a life-course perspective. First chapter in (I. Levav, Editor).Epidemiology of Psychiatric and behavioral disorders in Israel. (in press)

Refereed Articles in Scientific Journals

Bloch-Damti, O., Sarid, O. Sheiner, E., Zilberstein, T. & **Cwikel**, J. (2008) The involvement of psychological stress in infertility among women. Harefuah. (Hebrew) 147(3):256-60, 276.

Mendlinger, S. & **Cwikel**, J. (2008) Spiraling between qualitative and quantitative data on women's health behaviors: A double helix model for mixed methods. Qualitative Health Research. 18(2):280-93

Huss, E. & **Cwikel**, J. (2008) "It's hard to be the child of a fish and a butterfly" Creative genograms: Bridging objective and subjective experiences, Arts in Psychotherapy: 35:171-180, doi:10.1016/j.aip.2007.10.002

Cwikel, J. Latzer, T., Latzer, S. & Press, F. (2008) Sexually transmitted infections among female sex workers: an international review with an emphasis on hard to access populations. Sexual Health 5,1-8.

Cwikel, J. Zilber, N. Feinson. M. & Lerner, Y. (2008) Prevalence and risk factors of threshold and sub-threshold psychiatric disorders in primary care. Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology, 43(3):184-191, Nov 16th, epub, 1-8,

Cwikel , J. (2008) Lessons from Semmelweis – A social epidemiological update on Safe Motherhood. Social Medicine, 3(1):19-35

Huss, E. **Cwikel**, J. & Daphna-Tekoa, S. Hidden treasures from Israeli women's writing groups: exploring an integrative, feminist therapy. In press, Women & Therapy.

Cwikel, J. (2008) Take a walk on the wild side of social epidemiology. (letter). International Journal of Epidemiology, Jan. 17, 2008, 1-2, doi:10.1093/ije/dym297.

Huss, E. & **Cwikel**, J. (2008). Shifting pain from the body to society: embodied drawings of impoverished single Bedouin mothers. Archives of Women's Mental Health. 11(2):137-147. Epub 2008 May 21. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00737-008-0007-8>

Iecovich, E. & **Cwikel, J.** The relationship between wellbeing and self-rated health among middle aged and elderly women in Israel. In press, Clinical Gerontologist Journal

Hochberg, M. and **Cwikel, J.** (editors) (2008). Women in Center Frame. Artist's Catalogue to accompany the 3rd National Conference on Promoting Women's Mental Health, Sept. 2008, photographs from 23 women photographers reflecting women's coping with the reality of Israel in 2008. Center for Women's Health Studies and Promotion, Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

Presentations at workshops and seminars

2008- Social epidemiology as a tool for addressing issues in women's health – Mom to Mom and coping of women under conditions of chronic stress. University of Western Jutland, Faculty of Social and Health Sciences, Holstebro Campus. August 19th, 2008

2008 – Take a walk on the wild side of social epidemiology. Departmental Seminar in Gynecology, The Rigshospital, (the largest hospital in Denmark), Copenhagen. August 21st, 2008

2008 – Addressing health inequity using social epidemiology, Departmental Seminar at the University of Copenhagen's Department of Social Medicine. August 25th, 2008

Ms. Daphna-Tekoah Shir

She submitted her dissertation research on the topic of "Childbirth as Retraumatization" under the supervision of Prof. Rachel Lev-Weisel and Prof. Alean Al-Krenawi.

She is running a women's creative writing group around the issues of grief and loss.

Dr. Huss Ephrat

This year Ephrat started supervising the "Isha-beShela" therapists in the center, on a voluntary basis, in order to contribute to research and evaluation projects on women's therapy. Dr Huss continues to publish together with Professor Cwikel on the uses of creativity within feminist therapy models. In addition, Dr. Ephrat Huss acted as an expert consultant for the Em le Em project and conducted a seminar on parental conflict and early childhood. She also supervised the creative writing group leaders.

Conferences

2008 Invention and Innovation: American Art Therapy Association International Conference: Cleveland Ohio America: Lecture: Media and Materials from an Intercultural viewpoint. Art and Therapy.

2008 Vital Signs Real Life Methods ESRC National Center for Research methods International Conference Manchester University England: Lecture; Arts Based Research with impoverished Bedouin women.

2008 Academic Advisory Committee for the National Conference for Women's Mental Health.

2008 Academic Advisory Committee for the National Conference of Group methods.

2008 Academic Advisory Committee for the National conference of qualitative research methods.

Publications

Huss, E., & Cwikel J., (2008) Creative Genograms: Bridging Subjective and Objective Experience. *Arts in Psychotherapy*, 35: 171-180

Huss E., (2007) Taking Back Symbolic Spaces: Bedouin Women's Art in Israel. *Visual Anthropology*, 47: 306- 317.

Huss, E. & Cwikel, J. (2008). Shifting pain from the body to society: embodied drawings of impoverished single Bedouin mothers. *Archives of Women's Mental Health*. 11(2):137-147. Epub 2008 May 21. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00737-008-0007-8>

Huss, E., (Forthcoming), Fabric and Thread as an expression of Cultural and Gendered Identity for Bedouin Women in Israel: Implications for art therapy, Inscape (Accepted for publication).

Huss E., (forthcoming) The wrong house, the wrong tree, and the wrong person Understanding Bedouin women's drawings through a social rather than psychological lense. *Hevra Verevaha (Society and Welfare)* (Accepted for publication) (in Hebrew).

Huss, E. **Cwikel, J.** & Daphna-Tekoa, S. Hidden treasures from Israeli women's writing groups: exploring an integrative, feminist therapy. In press, *Women & Therapy*.

Ms. Meallem Ilana

Ms. Ilana Meallem continues to lead the research group on developing bio-gas digesters to provide Bedouin women with an environmentally-friendly way of treating organic waste. She is working in collaboration with the Arava Institute and the Dr. Yaakov Garb of the Blaustein Institute for Desert Research at Sde Boker.

Conferences and Presentations

April, 2008, United Nations University leadership training in Renewable Energy in Amman Jordan along with other Arava Alumni and participants from across the Middle East (including Syria and Lebanon).

July, 2008, Bedouin Biogas project at the Activating Human Rights and Peace Conference, Byron Bay Australia on a “*Activating Peace by Building Resilience through the Eco Cultural Connection*”.

Research Prize

In Aug 2008, Ilana Meallem received a BGU Student Prize in Memory of Prof. John R. Goldsmith in honor of her “Significant contribution through research in the fields of environmental health” for her research work on “The environmental exposures of Bedouin Women to Waste-related Hazards” for her MA thesis under the supervision of Dr. Yaakov Garb.

Publication

Meallem, I. and Y. Garb, The Exposure of Bedouin Women to Waste Related Hazards: Gender, Toxins and Multiple Marginality in the Negev, *Women & Environments*, Fall/Winter 2008, pp. 44-48.

Ms. Mendlinger Sheryl

Publications

Mendlinger, S. & Cwikel, J. "Spiraling between qualitative quantitative data on women's health behaviors: A double helix model for mixed methods," *Qualitative Health Research*, Vol. 18, No. 2, 280-293 (2008)

Ms. Sheryl Mendlinger - Knowledge acquisition in the area of women's health behavior between mothers and daughters: aspects of universality and cultural dependency: a qualitative and quantitative study of women in the Negev. This Ph.D. is in Education under the supervision of Prof. Julie Cwikel. Three articles and a chapter in a book have been published and she has submitted her thesis for final submission.

Courses taught

Women's Health in the 21st Century
Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts

Presentations at Conferences and Meetings

2008 - The mother Daughter Relationship as a Buffer for Mental Health Distress in Times of Transition: Immigration and Childbirth, Northeastern University.

2008 –Academic challenges of incarcerated women in the Prison Readiness for Education Program PREP, Department of Correction, Massachusetts.

Program Development

Administrative Manager of the Institute on Urban Health Research, Northeastern University, Boston, MA. Responsible for program development, research and grant writing in the area of women's health, female offenders and reentry programs for formerly incarcerated men and women.

Dr. Rabson Hare June

In 2008, June conducted two empowerment and creativity groups using psychodrama for women in Dimona at the Women to Women Center. She is working on developing an informative play-script based on interviews with women who experienced heart attack. This undertaking is partly financed by the generosity of a Hadassah-Brandeis Institute Grant. She is also working on developing a therapeutic model using enactment methods for working with women who have suffered loss and bereavement.

Dr. Sarid Orly

Publications

Sarid, O., Anson, J., & Cohen, M. (2008). Reactions of students to different settings of field experience, *European Journal of Social Work*, 1-11.

Melzer, I., Kurtz, I., & Sarid, O. (2008). An instrument to assess function and disability among elderly people, *The Israeli Journal of Physiotherapy*, 10 (1), 12-17. (Hebrew).

Oz, Y., Sarid, O., Peleg, R., & Sheiner, E. (2008). Sense of coherence predicts uncomplicated delivery: a prospective observational study, *Journal of Psychosomatic Obstetrics and Gynecology*. Accepted.

Sarid, O., Anson, O., Schwartz, D., & Yaari, A. (2008). Anti Hsp70 antibodies, cortisol and psychological factors: a pilot study, *Internet Journal of Allied Health Sciences and Practice*. 6 (4), 1-9.

Sarid, O., Segal-Engelchin, D., Bitan, O. (2008). Implications of a cognitive behavioral group interventions and peer social group on adolescence and young adults with cerebral palsy: a pilot study, *International Journal of Disability, Community & Rehabilitation*, 7 (2).

Chapters in collective volumes

Sarid, O., Segal-Engelchin, D., & Bitan, O. (2008). The quality of life profile of adolescence and young adults diagnosed with cerebral palsy: an evaluation of a cognitive behavioral group intervention. *Proceedings of the 7th Mediterranean congress on physical and rehabilitation medicine*. (63-64). Milan, Italy: Edizioni Minerva Medica.

Lectures at conferences/meetings

2008- Sarid, O., Segal-Engelchin, D., & Bitan, O. Implication of a cognitive behavioral group intervention on cerebral palsy adolescence and young adults: a pilot study. Oral presentation in the 4th East European and Mediterranean Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine Conference, May 28-31, Eilat, Israel. Abstract presented in the Book of Abstracts, page 100.

2008- Sarid, O., Segal-Engelchin, D., & Bitan, O. Implication of a cognitive behavioral group intervention on cerebral palsy adolescence and young adults: a pilot study. Oral presentation in the 7th Mediterranean Congress of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine. September 18-21, Portoroz, Slovenia. Abstract presented in the Book of Abstracts, page 125.

2008- Oz.Y., Sarid, O., Peleg, R., & Sheiner, E. Sense of coherence predicts uncomplicated delivery: a prospective observational study. Poster presented in the Third National Conference on Promoting Mental Health among Women, September, 24-25, Beer Sheva, Israel. Abstract presented in the Book of Abstracts, page 109.

2008- Shraga, Y., Sarid, O. Attitudes of Israeli and immigrant mothers regarding their infant's physical health. Posters presented in the Third National Conference on Promoting Mental Health among Women, September, 24-25, Beer Sheva, Israel. Abstract presented in the Book of Abstracts, page 112.

Dr. Segal-Engelchin Dorit

Refereed articles in scientific journals

Segal-Engelchin, D. (2008). Fear of intimacy and hardness among single mothers by choice: A comparison to divorced and married mothers. *Journal of Family Social Work*, 11(2), 95-116.

Sarid, O., Segal-Engelchin, D., Bitan, O. (2008). Implications of a cognitive behavioral group intervention and a peer social group on adolescents and young adults with cerebra palsy: a pilot study. *International Journal of Disability, Community & Rehabilitation*, 7(2).

Dr. Simonstein Frida

Presentations in International meetings

The artificial womb – would you use it? A survey in Israel, XXII Congress of the European Society of Medicine and Philosophy. Tartu, Estonia August 2008.

‘Can’t afford it can’t avoid it’ – IVF in Bulgaria and Israel, 7th Feminist Approaches to Bioethics Congress, Rijeka, Croatia, September 2008.

On enhancement and the neglected factor. The 9th Congress of the International Association of Bioethics, Rijeka Croatia September 2008.

Genomics education in developing countries. Invited for a Special session on Genomics, The 9th Congress of the International Association of Bioethics, Rijeka Croatia September 2008.

Articles published in peer reviewed journals

Simonstein, F. and Mashiach–Eizenberg, M (2008) The artificial womb – a pilot study considering people’s views on the artificial womb and ectogenesis in Israel Cambridge Quarterly of Health Care Ethics (18) 1-8

Simonstein, F. (2008) Stem cell research – can the disagreement be resolved? A perspective from Israel. J Med Ethics (34) 732-734

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Simonstein, F. (2008) Human Enhancement & Factor X. J Med Ethics (34) 102-103

Book (in progress)

(Editor) Reprogen-ethics and the Future of Gender Springer.

Chapters in books

Simonstein F. and Balabanova E. Reproductive policy: assisted reproduction in pro-natalistic countries. In, Reprogen-ethics and the Future of Gender Ed. Frida Simonstein Springer (forthcoming)

Simonstein F. and Machiach M. Ectogenesis and the artificial womb – a survey in Israel. In, Reprogen-ethics and the Future of Gender Ed. Frida Simonstein Springer (forthcoming)