



GENDER, DIVERSITY & INTERSECTIONALITY RESEARCH CENTRE

MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER

if you have never
stood with the oppressed
there is still time

lift them - rupi kaur

DEFINING WOMANHOOD W/ TRACEY NORMAN AND CRAZINIST ARTIST



FOR ALL QUEENS PRESENTS:
'DEFINING WOMANHOOD' 19.05.2022
CRAZINIST TRACEY AFRICA 19.00 - 22.00
ARTIST & NORMAN VUB - RHEA Faculty
Pleinlaan 2, 1050 Brussels

FOR ALL QUEENS! with the support of RHEA are inviting fashion icon and first African-American trans model Tracey Norman and CrazinisT artisT as the opening event of the FAQ! Pride Festival. CrazinisT artisT is a multidisciplinary "artist", founder and artistic director of perfocraZe International Artist Residency (pIAR) which aims to promote exchange between international and local artists, activists, researchers, curators, and thinkers.

The aim of the lecture is not to actually define what womanhood is, but what it means. The different experiences that it brings. The event is moderated by Rachael Moore.

Location: VUB Campus Etterbeek, Pleinlaan 2, PL2 i.0.01

Time: 19/05/2022, 20.00-22.15.

Registration is needed via [our website](#).

RHEA RESEARCH SEMINARS

NEW PERSPECTIVES OF MIGRANT FERTILITY IN BELGIUM: THE CONGOLESE DIASPORA - MARIE MOSUSE



In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), fertility rates have been high for decades. Ongoing political instability, insecurity, and external exploitation have prevented the country from creating a stable environment that would allow a fertility decline. Although it is well established that fertility and migration are highly intertwined on multiple levels, it remains unknown how these high fertility rates translate to a Belgian context of low fertility.

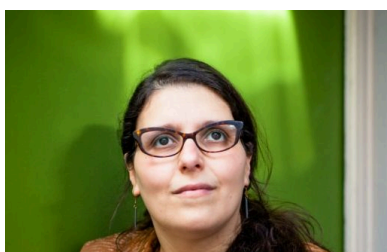
In this talk, Marie will outline her research on Congolese migrant fertility in the framework of the fertility transition in DRC, and link Congolese historical events and associated migration waves with the trends and determinants of fertility of the diaspora Belgium. Their paradoxical socio-economic profile – highly educated yet low employment rates – in combination with the inextricable colonial ties between DRC and Belgium make for an interesting case study of fertility.

Location: VUB Campus Etterbeek, Pleinlaan 5, PL5.5.61 (Van Gogh).

Time: 30/05/2022, 13.00-14.30.

This event is free, but registration is needed via [our website](#).

INCLUSIVE DEMENTIA CARE FOR AN ETHNICALLY DIVERSE POPULATION: A NEW CONCEPTUAL LENS - DR. SALOUA BERDAI CHAOUNI



Together with Europe, Belgium knows an increasing share of older migrants with dementia. Various attempts are made to provide accessible and suitable care for them. Culturally sensitive and person-centered care are often put forward as



approaches to achieve this goal. However, our studies involving older migrants with dementia, family and professional caregivers indicate that we need to rethink the dominant care approaches for this sub-population. These approaches do not meet the complex interaction of personal, cultural and religious aspects in defining care needs of older migrants and ethnic minorities with dementia, and fail to recognize the hidden structural and systemic exclusion mechanisms at the organizational and societal level shaping inequity in dementia care.

In this seminar we present a paper that suggests a new conceptual lens for an inclusive dementia care provision for a diverse population. The conceptual lens centralizes the needs of the older migrant with dementia without being oblivious to the needs of informal and professional caregivers that are present in the care relationship and which consequently influence the care provision. It points out that these individual needs are complex, dynamic, situational, and reflect challenges at the institutional and societal levels. Accurately detecting, understanding, and responding to the complexity of these needs is required in order to move toward inclusive dementia care. To conclude, this conceptual lens broadens the scope in the search for suitable and inclusive dementia care for an ethnically diverse population, suggesting that building blocks for this goal should be searched at the micro, meso and macro level.

Location: Online.

Time: 20/06/2022, 13.00-14.30.

This event is free, but registration is needed via [our website](#).

PUBLIC PHD DEFENSE - MICHIEL DE PROOST



On April 21, RHEA team member Michiel De Proost, successfully defended his PhD-thesis "Frictions with autonomy and future fertility: Towards a feminist empirical bioethics of social egg freezing". He has now officially obtained his degree as doctor in Philosophy and Ethics (Moraalwetenschappen) at VUB. His article-based dissertation explored how, in terms of individual autonomy and related concerns of emancipation, women morally understand and experience social egg freezing. Michiel engaged in dialogue with 21 women who were interested in this procedure, based on an innovative Socratic method vis-à-vis critical, ethical reflections on this practice. To conclude, he argues that social egg

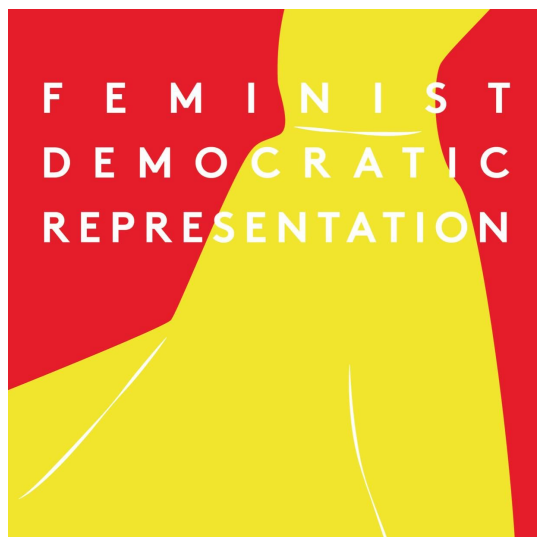
freezing is not inherently emancipatory and it is dubious to co-opt this technology as an instrument for gender equality.

Michiel is also a finalist of the doctoral derby and will compete during the final session on **June 7th, 2022 from 17h to 19h at Muntpunt. You can register for this event [here.](#)**

ZONTA BRUSSEL ZAVELAANMOEDIGINGSPRIJS 2022 "SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER" - OLIVIA JOKE LASTRA

Olivia Joke Lastra has won the Zonta Brussel Zavelaanmoedigingsprijs 2022 for her master dissertation. In this master dissertation Olivia Joke Lastra, supervised by prof. Gily Coene (director RHEA) and prof. Johan Stuy, explores what Mary Wollstonecraft's work can teach us about moral courage, approached from a feminist care-ethical perspective. Olivia made use of the framework by Sheldene Simola to structure the literary analysis of "A Vindication of the Rights of Woman" and concludes that next to facilitators, the concept of amplifiers of moral courage could be added to the framework.

MACKENZIE BOOK PRIZE "FEMINIST DEMOCRATIC REPRESENTATION" - KAREN CELIS AND SARAH CHILDS



Professors Karen Celis (director of RHEA) and Sarah Childs (University of London) have won a prize for their book *Feminist Democratic Representation*. The Political Science Association in Britain awarded them this year's MacKenzie Book Prize for the best book on political science. Celis: "For us this is a very important recognition, for a scientific journey we started 20 years ago!"

The jury praised the book for being refreshing, accessible and a significant step forward in political science. "The book represents a major advance for debates within and outside feminist and democratic political theory and, importantly, does so in a refreshingly accessible and engaging way. The authors draw on a range of research, case studies, concrete examples from everyday life, and their own experiences that invite us to rethink traditional political institutions. This book suggests ways not only for better representation

of women, but for representation in general.”

Karen Celis is very pleased with the award. “We are very focused today on participatory and deliberative innovations to strengthen democracy. But we also need to work on our formal representative bodies (parliaments, municipal councils, etc) because, until further notice, that’s where the laws are made. It is there where rights are decided, and possibly also removed. Making them function inclusively and democratically is therefore crucial. We’ve used feminist theory – inclusion, responsiveness and equality – to visualise and then draw up a new representation process. That’s what we do in this book: we do democratic design, we redesign our parliaments so they function more democratically.”

PAUL DE VROEDE PRIZE "WOMEN EXPERIENCING INFERTILITY IN THE GAMBIA" - SUSAN DIERICKX

We are excited to announce that RHEA coordinator prof. Susan Dierickx is nominated for the Paul De Vroede prize with her PhD research on the experiences of women with infertility in The Gambia. This prize is awarded every two years to a PhD in the human sciences, which has made a demonstrable contribution to society in terms of content. Late Prof. Dr. Paul De Vroede was professor at the VUB and made an exceptional contribution to the humanities as a historian and jurist. Not only did he contribute to the economic law in Belgium, but he also worked for the development of a humanistic society and the development of the VUB in particular. To honor him, the VUB Scientific Support Fund has set up the Paul Vroede Prize to give a socially relevant doctoral dissertation in human sciences financial support that will help the holder to continue his/her academic career.

The prize will be awarded in September 2022.

RHEA IN THE NEWS

Naar aanleiding van de reportage van Pano over wangedrag aan universiteiten schreven RHEA leden **Marijke Roosen** en **Mattias De Backer** samen met **Yana Jaspers** een opiniestuk in De Morgen. In een krachtige verklaring wijzen ze uit dat uit dat machtsmisbruik in het academische milieu stevast dient te worden beoordeeld en geremedieerd door collega’s of directe oversten. Preventie door het probleem van binnenuit aan te pakken is vele malen belangrijker dan een meldpunt en vertrouwenspersoon. Ze argumenteren dat we het profiel van de ‘goede’ professor in vraag

moeten stellen en hertekenen. Werving en evaluaties moeten meer screenen op sociale vaardigheden en people management. Er is bovendien een beter evenwicht nodig in de manier waarop verschillende rollen van een academicus te gelde worden gemaakt. Internationale publicaties zijn belangrijk, net als maatschappelijke impact en de inzet als goede lesgever. De ideale prof is een degelijke mentor voor jonge onderzoekers en een fijne collega.

Lees het volledige artikel [hier](#).

NEW RHEA PUBLICATIONS

De Munck, B., Lafaut, D., Hammer, D. H., Van Hootehem, H., Mannaert, H., Lasoen, K., ... Verdonck, S. (2022). Twee jaar corona: geen reden voor een feestelijke verjaardag. *Doorbraak*.

De Proost, M. (2022). *Frictions with autonomy and future fertility. Towards a Feminist Bioethics of Social Egg Freezing: Dissertation submitted to obtain the academic degree of Doctor of Philosophy and Moral Sciences*.

De Proost, M., & Alexis Paton (2022). Medical versus social egg freezing: The importance of future choice for women's decision-making. *Monash Bioethics Review*, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40592-022-00153-9>

De Proost, M., & Johnston, M. (2022). The revision of the French bioethics law and the questions it raises for the future of funding for egg freezing. *Reproductive BioMedicine Online*, 591-593. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rbmo.2021.12.002>

De Proost, M., Coene, G., Nekkebroeck, J., & Provoost, V. (2022). 'I feel that injustice is being done to me': a qualitative study of women's viewpoints on the (lack of) reimbursement for social egg freezing. *BMC Medical Ethics*, 23(1), [35]. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12910-022-00774-z>.

Gonzalez Fuster, G. (2022). Protección de datos y violencia machista en internet. *La Ley PRIVACIDAD*, enero-marzo 2022(11).

Jonker, H., Vanlee, F., & Ysebaert, W. (2022). Societal impact of university research in the written press: media attention in the context of SIUR and the open science agenda among social scientists in Flanders, Belgium. *Scientometrics*, 2022, 1-18.

Ortalda, A., Rigotti, C., Chomczyk Penedo, A., & De Hert, P. (2022). Biometrics. In *Guidelines on Data*

Rigotti, C., Ortalda, A., Chomczyk Penedo, A., & De Hert, P. (2022). Data subject rights. In *Guidelines on Data Protection ELI in ICT Research and Innovation by the PANELFIT Project*

Timbermont, E. (2022). Academic freedom as a fundamental feature of academia: a European Union perspective. *Higher Education Policy*. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41307-021-00261-x>

Timbermont, E. (2022). Over de vaste benoeming, de werkzekerheid en de ontslagmacht: een gewaagde combinatie. *Chroniques de Droit Social = Sociaalrechtelijke Kronieken*, 1, 14-21.

Van Hove, H. (2022). 'The Moving Towards Words & Then from Them': Circling Passages, Circling Quin. *Women: A Cultural Review*, 33(1), 93-113. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09574042.2022.2020012>

Vergaert, E., Withaecx, S., & Coene, G. (2022). "Watchful waiting": everyday ethical caring practices of general practitioners in cases of intimate partner violence. *International Journal of Care and Caring*, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1332/239788221X16478612581252>

AGENDA

Keep it organized!

Defining womanhood w/Tracey Norman and crazinisT artist

Thursday 19/05/2022

Time: 20.00-22.15

Location: VUB Campus Etterbeek, Pleinlaan 2, PL2 i.0.01

RHEA event

New perspectives of migrant fertility in Belgium: the Congolese diaspora with Marie

Mosuse

Monday 30/05/2022

Time: 13.00-14.30

Location: VUB Campus Etterbeek, Pleinlaan 5, PL5.5.61 (Van Gogh)

RHEA Research Seminar

Inclusive dementia care for an ethnically diverse population: a new conceptual lens with Dr. Saloua Berdai Chaouni

Monday 20/06/2022

Time: 13.00-14.30

Location: Online

RHEA Research Seminar

YOUR NEWS IN THE NEWSLETTER?

If you have some interesting RHEA-related news that you would want to include in our newsletter or you would like to organize an event in collaboration with us, do not hesitate to contact us at rhea@vub.be



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