



# JOURNAL OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

## Special Issue on Law and Society CRN 11: Displaced Peoples Guest Editors: Megan Ballard & Ben Hudson

### ABSTRACTS

The Journal of Internal Displacement (JID), established July 2009, is the only scholarly journal committed to all displacement concerns worldwide. Thanks to the generous voluntary contribution from the advisory board and editorial team - manuscript submission, peer-review and publication of the JID is **FREE OF CHARGE**. The JID does not charge authors to submit articles.

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#### **Editorial**

*Megan Ballard & Ben Hudson*

JID (January 2018), Vol. 8 No. 1, 2-4

#### **Abstract**

*This Special Issue of the Journal of Internal Displacement (JID) celebrates the creation of the Displaced Peoples Collaborative Research Network of the Law and Society Association (LSA). This development is a fresh and welcome platform for interdisciplinary collaboration on one of the most-timely yet under-studied research areas.*

#### **Female Heads of Households in Sri Lanka: Making and Sustaining IDP Camp Shelters as a Self-settlement Strategy**

*Fazeeha Azmi*

JID (January 2018), Vol. 8 No. 1, 5-19

#### **Abstract**

*Since 1990, Muslim internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the district of Puttalam in Sri Lanka have been living in a state of protracted displacement. During this time, they have been confronted with various socio-economic and political challenges concerned with the realization of durable solutions to their displacement. After nearly two and a half decades, while some IDPs have become victims of the negligence and exclusion thrust upon them by the Sri Lankan government and donors, others have instead proven themselves to be anything but simply victims. By focusing on female heads of households (FHHs) and their attempts to generate and sustain positive livelihoods,*

*this paper aims to unravel how the livelihood strategies of FHHs are mediated through their heterogeneity and hence their agency to access different resources to make a living in the context of protracted displacement. This study is informed by a larger survey that was undertaken by the author in 2014, which focused on Muslim FHHs' access to economic, social and cultural resources in Puttalam. This paper also uses data obtained from twelve in-depth interviews and one focus group discussion with IDP FHHs, conducted subsequent to the completion of the larger survey. The study finds that the heterogeneity of FHHs is highly influential on their livelihood strategies and their agency to access livelihood resources. This heterogeneous character also overlaps into accessing livelihoods. In sum, the paper reveals the importance to FHHs of both 'compliant' agency and 'transformative' agency in making and sustaining livelihoods in displacement.*

### **The Prevalence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) among Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Maai Mahiu Camp in Nakuru County, Kenya**

*Josephine N. Musau, Maxwell Omondi & Lincoln Khasakhala*

JID (January 2018), Vol. 8 No. 1, 20-33

#### **Abstract**

*Over recent decades, studies have shown that trauma is an etiological agent in the genesis of psychopathology. A significant number of those who are exposed to potentially traumatic events, such as conflict and violence, may develop PTSD and other mental health or behavioral conditions. In 2007/8, Kenya was in the grip of post-election violence (PEV). This was an environment in which many were exposed to overwhelming and distressing experiences, and from which survivors were left feeling frustrated and powerless. This study adopts a posttest, quasi-experimental research design for the purpose of determining the prevalence of PTSD and associated socio-demographic factors among IDPs following PEV. A sample of 139 respondents was obtained through a purposive sampling technique. Socio-demographic and Severity of Posttraumatic Stress Symptoms-Adult\* \*National Stressful Events Survey PTSD Short Scale (NSESSS) questionnaires were completed, and ethical standards observed. Analysis was conducted using SPSS, utilizing descriptive, bivariate and multivariate statistical tests. The findings indicate that there is a negative impact of PEV on survivors, resulting in a PTSD prevalence rate of 62.1%. The findings call for governments to adequately plan for and programme mental health interventions for IDPs.*

### **Measuring IDPs' Psycho-emotional Responses to War**

JID (January 2018), Vol. 8 No. 1, 34-44

*Shorena Sadzaglishvili & Stuart Scharf*

#### **Abstract**

*This paper reports on psycho-emotional responses of different groups of internally displaced persons ("IDPs") to the 2008 Russian-Georgian War, identifying a need for differential rehabilitation strategies. A total of 89 IDPs were analyzed using the Gottschalk-Gleser Method, which qualifies and quantifies psychological states through content analysis of speech. Interviews were taken individually, and interviewers strictly followed the standard and specific Gottschalk-Gleser instructions for the Anxiety, Hostility and Hope scales. The narratives with significant differences were more closely analyzed in order to cull a greater sense of personal experience. Results showed statistically significant differences between some of the pairs of groups. Group II (Recent IDPs) showed higher death anxiety compared to the other groups. With more current exposure to hostile fighting in an active war zone, IDPs from Groups II (Recent IDPs) and III*

*(Double IDPs) had higher Overt Hostility compared to Group I (Abkhazian IDPs). IDPs from Group I (Abkhazian IDPs) developed Hope as a defense mechanism in coping with their long-lasting problems to a greater degree than the two other groups. Gender differences are also discussed. Besides differential findings in the geographic areas of study that may support different remedial strategies, the Gottschalk-Gleser Method itself can be considered as an easy instrument to use in measuring the psycho-emotional reactions of affected individuals, facilitating adequate and timely intervention.*

### **Fatal Journeys of Displaced African Migrants Crossing the Mediterranean: International and Regional Effort and Response**

*Veronica Fynn Bruey*

JID (January 2018), Vol. 8 No. 1, 45-82

#### **Abstract**

*Global forced displacement reached an unprecedented high of 65.6 million people in 2016, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The Mediterranean Sea has claimed the lives of thousands of displaced migrants, many of whom are children and women fleeing war, harsh climatic conditions and poverty. The United Nations, African Union and the European Union have legal apparatuses to guide efforts and responses to the fatal journeys of Africans crossing the Mediterranean. Lack of safe and legal pathways increases displaced migrants' vulnerability to smuggling, sexual exploitation and other forms of human rights abuses. This paper examines international and regional institutions' efforts and responses in grappling with the enforcement and implementation of effective law and policy to address the migration crisis. The limitations of empirical data and scholarly research challenge in-depth examination of fatal journeys across the Mediterranean. By the same token, a shortage of material on the topic provides an opportunity to advance research with focus on the efficacy of national, regional and sub-regional migration law and policy.*

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