



Broken Women, Healing Traditions?

AIDS, GENDER AND RELIGION

AN HIVU EVENT AND SEMINAR

In 2007 the "Broken Women, Healing Traditions?" project received the "Oslo Celebrations Scholarship", which was awarded by the Norwegian Ministry of Research and Higher Education, as part of the celebration of the 10 years of academic cooperation between South Africa and Norway. This grant made it possible to carry out a peer-based educational project called "HIV University (HIVU)" in Mphomeni Township in April 2008.

The HIVU model is initially developed by WORLD to empower HIV positive women in the United States. At this seminar we will present the challenges and lessons learnt from implementing this model in a South African context. We are inviting researchers, students, activists, non-governmental, governmental and other official representatives to bring in a variety of critiques and perspectives, and to share their concerns regarding the interrelated themes of AIDS, gender and religion.

NOVEMBER 13TH AND 14TH 2008

FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

THE UNIVERSITY OF OSLO

AUDITORIUM U40
DOMUS THEOLOGICA
BLINDERNVEIEN 9
0315 OSLO



Broken Women, Healing Traditions?

NOVEMBER 13TH 2008

Women's Life Strategies and Search for Empowerment. Assessing AIDS Education

CHAIR OF THE DAY: SIDSEL ROALKVAM

12.00-14.30: HIV UNIVERSITY IN MPOPHOMENI

"The HIV University pilot project – an empirical, visual and reflexive presentation"

Jone Salomonsen, Professor of Theology, University of Oslo
Marie S. Thorstensen, MA student, Religion and Society program, University of Oslo
Ida Elisabeth Wagle, MA student, Religion and Society program, University of Oslo

INVITED RESPONDENTS:

Letta Mosue, South Africa; Johanne Sundby, UiO; Astrid Blystad and Karen Marie Moland, UiB; Wenche Dageid, UiO; Anne Skjelmerud, Norad; Steinar Eraker, the Church City Mission.

14.30-15.15: LUNCH

15.15- 16.30: ENGAGING WITH HIV/AIDS PROGRAMS IN AFRICA

"Stigma and HIV- implications for programs"

Johanne Sundby, Professor of Social Medicine, University of Oslo, Viva Combs Thorsen, Medicine, UiO, Jacqueline Nkoma, University of Malawi, Malawi

"Gender, generation and communication in times of AIDS", Astrid Blystad, Professor of Public Health, University of Bergen, and Karen Marie Moland, Bergen University College

16.45-18.00: WOMEN'S LIFE STRATEGIES AND AIDS EDUCATION

"Gender, stigma, and inequality – the heart of FBO's response to HIV", Anne Skjelmerud, Senior Advisor, Norad

"Women and AIDS in South Africa – what is empowerment?", Letta Mosue, Psychologist, Traditional Healer, ordained Catholic nun, and AIDS community activist, South Africa

18.30-21.00: RECEPTION WITH TAPAS AND WINE

NOVEMBER 14TH 2008

From Ancestor Veneration to Liberal Rights? Techniques of Healing

CHAIR OF THE DAY: JONE SALOMONSEN

09.00-12.00: HEALING AIDS?

"Ancestors, Churches and HIV/AIDS", Letta Mosue, Psychologist, Traditional Healer, ordained Catholic nun, and AIDS community activist, South Africa

"Action, Change, Growth", Wenche Dageid, Post Doc Department of Psychology, University of Oslo

"Stigma and AIDS- is there a cure?" Steinar Eraker, Minister, the Church City Mission

12.00-13.00: LUNCH

13.00-14.00: THE NORWEGIAN EXPERIENCE

"The Norwegian Experience", Unni Mortensen, Team Leader, AKSEPT, Solveig Jacobsen, Social Consultant, AKSEPT

14.00-15.00: ADDRESSING THE PARALLELS

"From ancestor worship to liberal rights? A gendered perspective on healing and intervention", Sidsel Roalkvam, SUM/ Faculty of Theology, University of Oslo

Respondent: Kjetil Hafstad, Professor of Theology, UiO

SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER: LETTA MOSUE WILL PREACH AT THE SUNDAY SERVICE IN PAULUS CHURCH AT GRÜNERLØKKA, OSLO AT 11 A.M.

The seminar is open to all. Lunch is free and included. In order to estimate the amount of food needed to prepare lunch we kindly ask all attendants to sign up. Please sign up by sending an e-mail to mariesth@student.teologi.uio.no by November 10th 2008, with the subject: "AIDS, gender and religion."