



UNIVERSITY of the
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AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

TOWARDS A DECOLONIAL PSYCHOLOGY: THEORIES FROM THE GLOBAL SOUTH

A colloquium presented by University of the Western Cape , University of Kansas, University of Pretoria, University of South Africa, South African Medical Research Council and the University of Witwatersrand, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, a division of the American Psychological Association

21 – 22 FEBRUARY 2019

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

Although the landscape of decolonial scholarship and intellectual engagement has a fairly well developed and robust tradition amongst scholars from the South i.e., Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa, the practice of merging political and social activism with scholarship within the broader context of psychology is arguably still haunted by the effects of the “colonial wound”.

Several critical theorists have argued that despite the decolonial turn and presence of intrinsically politicised forms of psychology, the underlying structures of oppression, subjugation and injustice remain ever-present (Sardar, 2008). In this sense, it can be argued that psychologists, with their continued reliance on very particular definitions of subjectivity and subject position, have been key participants in contributing to the maintenance and perpetuation of oppressive systems and practices.

Within the discipline there continues to be an epistemological imperative to interrogate our theoretical and practical projects within the broader relations of structural inequality, domination, and the experience of violence and discrimination - experiences that continue to exist in society. One such example is the role psychology played in challenging institutionalised racism in South Africa. A decolonial turn necessitates a process of change in both thinking and practice and is one closely linked to academic institutions as systems of knowledge production.

The aim of the colloquium is to engage local and international scholars and practitioners of psychology in terms of the nuances of decoloniality within society, academia and practice. Moreover, we will explore decolonial praxis, how this can be realised as well as its implications.

We encourage scholars and practitioners who wish to cast a further critical lens on the concept of decoloniality to consider sharing their knowledge and experience at this 2-day colloquium.

The themes being explored are the following:

- The concept of decoloniality
- Teaching, knowledge development and the scholarship of decoloniality in learning and teaching
- Psychology voice and agency in decoloniality
- Critical psychology perspectives
- Aspects of the history of psychology and its trajectories towards a decolonial psychology
- Critical perspectives on methodologies in a decolonial psychology

Abstracts should not be longer than 300 words and submitted no later than **23 November 2018**.

Please forward abstracts to: decol-symposium2019@uwc.ac.za

We look forward to sharing our knowledge and experience in Cape Town in 2019.

