



**HARVARD
T.H. CHAN**

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Department of Global Health
and Population

3rd Annual

State of Global Health Symposium



Coming of Age: A Conference on Global Adolescent Health

Tuesday, March 29, 2016, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Rotunda, Joseph B. Martin Conference Center

77 Avenue Louis Pasteur, Boston, MA

Welcome and Introductions

Wafaie Fawzi, Chair, Department of Global Health and Population

Jacqueline Bhabha, Professor of the Practice of Health and Human Rights

Featured Remarks: Building the Field of Adolescent Health

David Ross, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health, World Health Organization

Panel: The Landscape of Adolescence

Jocelyn Finlay, Research Scientist, Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies

Jennifer Leaning, François-Xavier Bagnoud Professor of the Practice of Health and Human Rights

Phuong Pham, Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Moderated by: **Dan Wikler**, Mary B. Saltonstall Professor of Ethics and Population Health

Panel: Policy Making for Adolescents

Theresa Betancourt, Associate Professor of Global Health and Population

Howard Koh, Harvey V. Fineberg Professor of the Practice of Public Health Leadership

Nir Eyal, Associate Professor of Global Health and Population

Moderated by: **Ana Langer**, Professor of the Practice of Public Health

Reception and Poster Session

To secure a seat at this event, registration is strongly advised.

Please register at: www.hsph.harvard.edu/ghp

BACKGROUND

“Coming of Age: A Conference on Global Adolescent Health”

There is a growing awareness that adolescence is a neglected phase of human development. Many of the dramatic gains achieved in early childhood – including decreases in infant mortality– are nullified by failures to address adolescent needs. The reduction in infant mortality in Brazil has been completely offset by the increasing mortality due to escalating gang and drug related violence of urban adolescents. For these reasons, and because of the new threats to adolescents posed by escalating evidence of sexual predation, bullying and exploitation via the Internet, fundamentalist recruitment strategies, dangerous migration routes, many constituencies of policy makers, civil society organizations and researchers are turning their attention to adolescent rights and needs.

Health issues related to adolescence are particularly salient. In 2012, an estimated 1.3 million adolescents died mostly from preventable or treatable causes. About 16 million girls aged 15 to 19 and some 1 million girls under the age of 15 give birth every year. Pregnancy and childbirth are the second cause of death among this cohort. Access to employment opportunities and possibilities of realizing one’s aspirations are also critical for adolescents. Youth unemployment is rampant; in Europe alone, the richest continent on earth, there are 5 million European youth out of work. This situation in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East is even more acute. Conversely, young people can thrive and contribute fully to societies if (i) quality education, and skill training, (ii) health information and services and (iii) human rights protections and opportunities to participate in decision-making, are provided during adolescence.

There is a serious dearth of data on adolescents, caused by the absence of a consensus definition of adolescence and a lack of political will to focus on adolescent needs and rights. The forthcoming General Comment on Adolescence, currently being finalized by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, will address the former. But to generate political will, data sources are only a start. Political mobility and leadership are essential too, and health professionals engaged in the issue of adolescent rights and health will be key players.

SPEAKER PROFILES

Theresa S. Betancourt, Sc.D., M.A., is Associate Professor of Child Health and Human Rights in the Department of Global Health and Population at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Director of the Research Program on Children and Global Adversity (RPCGA). Her central research interests include the developmental and psychosocial consequences of concentrated adversity on children, youth and families; resilience and protective processes in child and adolescent mental health and child development; refugee families; and applied cross-cultural mental health research. She is Principal Investigator of a prospective longitudinal study of war-affected youth in Sierra Leone which led to the development of group interventions for war-affected youth that are now being scaled up in Sierra Leone in collaboration with the World Bank and Government of Sierra Leone. She has developed and evaluated the impact of a Family Strengthening Intervention for HIV-affected children and families and is also investigating the impact of a home-visiting early childhood development (ECD) intervention to promote enriched parent-child relationships and prevent violence in Rwanda. Domestically, she is engaged in community-based participatory research on family-based prevention of emotional and behavioral problems in refugee children and adolescents resettled in the U.S. Dr. Betancourt has written extensively on mental health and resilience in children facing adversity including recent articles in *Child Development*, *The Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, *Social Science and Medicine*, *JAMA Psychiatry*, and *PLOS One*.

Jacqueline Bhabha, M.Sc., J.D., is FXB Director of Research, Professor of the Practice of Health and Human Rights in the Department of Global Health and Population at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, the Jeremiah Smith Jr. Lecturer in Law at Harvard Law School, and an Adjunct Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School. She received a first class honors degree and an M.Sc. from Oxford University, and a J.D. from the College of Law in London. From 1997 to 2001 Bhabha directed the Human Rights Program at the University of Chicago. Prior to 1997, she was a practicing human rights lawyer in London and at the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. She has published extensively on issues of transnational child migration, refugee protection, children's rights and citizenship. She is the editor of *Children Without A State* (2011), author of *Moving Children: Young Migrants and the Challenge of Rights* (2014), and the editor of *Coming of Age: Reframing the Approach to Adolescent Rights* (2014). Bhabha serves on the board of the Scholars at Risk Network, the World Peace Foundation and the *Journal of Refugee Studies*. She is also a founder of the Alba Collective, an international women's NGO currently working with rural women and girls in developing countries to enhance financial security and youth rights.

Nir Eyal, Ph.D., M.A., is Associate Professor of Global Health and Population in the Department of Global Health and Population at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health. He also teaches Global Health and Health Policy in Harvard's Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and is affiliated with the University's Center for Bioethics, EJ Safra Center for Ethics, and Petrie-Flom Center, Human Rights Center and Adjunct Associate Professor at Tulane University's Payson Center for International Development. Prior to joining the Harvard faculty, where his primary appointment was for nine years at the medical school, Dr. Eyal was the Harold T. Shapiro Postdoctoral Fellow in Bioethics at the Center for Human Values of Princeton University. Previously, he was Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Clinical Bioethics of the National Institutes of Health. He holds a Ph.D. in Politics from Oxford University, an M.A. in Philosophy from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and a B.A. in Philosophy and History from Tel-Aviv University.

Wafae Fawzi, M.B.B.A., M.P.H., M.S., Ph.D., is Professor of Nutrition, Epidemiology and Global Health and Chair of the Department of Global Health and Population at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He completed his medical training at the University of Khartoum, Sudan and his Doctorate of Public Health in 1992 in the Departments of Epidemiology and Nutrition at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He has experience in the design and implementation of randomized controlled trials and observational epidemiologic studies of perinatal health and infectious diseases, with emphasis on nutritional factors. These include examining the epidemiology of adverse pregnancy outcomes, childhood infections, and HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria among populations in Tanzania, India and other developing countries. Dr. Fawzi is also a Principal Investigator of the MDH HIV/AIDS Care and Treatment Program in Tanzania, which provides for scaling up quality care and treatment services and building operational research capacity. He is a

founding member of the Africa Academy of Public Health, a Harvard affiliated organization that aims to train future public health leaders and build strong research collaborations with partners in Africa.

Jocelyn Finlay, Ph.D., is a Research Scientist at the Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies. An economist by training, but now benefiting from the multidisciplinary environment at HSPH, Dr. Finlay's research focuses on understanding the economic consequences of health and demographic change particularly in low and middle income countries. Her research fields examine the economic consequences of demographic change, the economics of reproductive health, issues surrounding child and maternal health, and the economics and social responses to natural disasters. Dr. Finlay works with the Demographic and Health Surveys and IPUMS International amongst other data. She has created a database of Reproductive Health Laws around the world from 1960 to the present. She is also involved with a large project cataloguing the Social Security Laws around the world from 1960 to the present. She also works with ArcGIS to collate data on natural disasters around the world and over time. In addition to the empirical work, Dr. Finlay also conducts systematic qualitative analysis exemplified by recent work conducted in Ghana.

Howard K. Koh, M.D., is the Harvey V. Fineberg Professor of the Practice of Public Health Leadership at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health and the Harvard Kennedy School. He has previously served as the 14th Assistant Secretary for Health for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2009-2014) after being nominated by President Barack Obama, and as Commissioner of Public Health for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (1997-2003) after being appointed by Governor William Weld. A graduate of Yale College and the Yale University School of Medicine, he has trained at Boston City Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital, has earned board certifications in 4 medical fields, held major academic positions at Boston University and Harvard University, published more than 250 articles in the medical and public health literature and has received over 70 awards for accomplishments in public health, as well as five honorary doctorate degrees.

Ana Langer, M.D., is a physician specializing in pediatrics and neonatology, and a reproductive health expert. She has led the Women and Health Initiative at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health since 2010, when she joined as Director and Professor of the Practice of Public Health in the Department of Global Health and Population. Dr. Langer is respected worldwide as a leader in using research findings to influence policy and improve the overall quality of health care for women and families. For the past 25 years, she has been a leading researcher, programmer, and advocate for the improvement of women's health along the life course. Dr. Langer has conducted and published extensively on maternal mortality, psychosocial support during pregnancy and labor and delivery, quality of care, unsafe abortion, emergency contraception, and long acting reversible contraceptives, and adolescents' sexual and reproductive health and rights. She has worked with academic institutions, non-governmental organizations, governments, civil society groups, and other key partners in the field of reproductive and women's health.

Jennifer Leaning, M.D., SMH, is the FXB Director, FXB Professor of the Practice of Health and Human Rights in the Department of Global Health and Population at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Her research and policy interests include issues of public health, medical ethics, and early warning in response to war and disaster, human rights and international humanitarian law in crisis settings, and problems of human security in the context of forced migration and conflict. Dr. Leaning serves on the boards of The Humane Society of the United States, and the Massachusetts Bay Chapter of the American Red Cross. She formerly served on the board of Physicians for Human Rights (an organization she co-founded), Physicians for Social Responsibility, and Oxfam America. She is Visiting Editor of the British Medical Journal, serves on the editorial board of Health and Human Rights, and is a member of the Board of Syndics at Harvard University Press. From 1999 to 2005, Dr. Leaning directed the Program on Humanitarian Crises and Human Rights at the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights at the Harvard School of Public Health, during which time Dr. Leaning also served as Editor-in-Chief of *Medicine & Global Survival*, an international quarterly. From 2005-2009, Dr. Leaning founded and co-directed the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative.

Phuong Pham, Ph.D., M.P.H., is an Assistant Professor at the Harvard Medical School and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Director of Evaluation and Implementation Science at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI). She has over 15 years of experience in designing and implementing

epidemiologic and evaluation research, technology solutions, and educational programs in on-going and post-conflict countries such as northern Uganda, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Central African Republic, Iraq, Cambodia, Colombia and other areas affected by mass violence and humanitarian crisis. She co-founded Peacebuildingdata.org (a portal of peacebuilding, human rights, and justice indicators) and [KoboToolbox](http://KoboToolbox.org) (a suite of software for digital data collection and visualization). Over the past three years, Dr. Pham has been working with UNICEF to conduct assessments for the Peacebuilding Education and Advocacy (PBEA) Programme.

David A. Ross, M.A., M.Sc., Ph.D., was born in Canada, but spent most of his first eight years in Nigeria, and then went to school in the UK and on to train in medicine and epidemiology in Oxford University. Dr. Ross was on the academic staff of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) from 1983 to April 2015, where he was a Professor of Epidemiology and International Public Health. He was also the leader of the Health of Adolescents and Young People Theme within the LSHTM's MARCH (Maternal, Adolescent, Reproductive and Child Health) Centre. While working for LSHTM, Dr. Ross spent over 20 years based in London and almost 10 years based in Africa. In April 2015, Dr. Ross joined the Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Department of the World Health Organization Headquarters to work on Adolescent Health, primarily on Research and Guidelines Development. Dr. Ross is also one of the leadership group of the Lancet Commission on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing. With colleagues in LSHTM, he coordinates a joint LSHTM/WHO two-week short course on adolescent health in low and middle-income countries in LSHTM each June.

Dan Wikler, Ph.D., is Saltonstall Professor of Ethics and Population Health in the Department of Global Health and Population at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. His current research interests are ethical issues in population and international health, including the allocation of health resources, health research involving human subjects, and ethical dilemmas arising in public health practice. Professor Wikler is presently co-director of the Program on Ethical Issues in International Health Research at the School of Public Health. Professor Wikler currently is co-director of a collaborative project with the PRC Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization to join Chinese colleagues, including former Program fellows, in an effort to enhance the China's capacity for ethical review of health research. A frequent lecturer on ethics and health in the PRC and Hong Kong, Professor Wikler holds honorary appointments at two Beijing research institutions. He is a core faculty member in the Harvard Program in Ethics and Health. He participates in faculty research and curriculum development groups on such issues as disparities in health status and the impact of corruption and fraud on public health. Professor Wikler also serves on the faculty of the Harvard Ph.D. Program in Health Policy and as a faculty associate in Harvard's Edmond J. Safra Foundation Center for Ethics.

POSTER SESSION

Abstracts Presented at Poster Session

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Rotunda, Joseph B. Martin Center

Intergenerational Asymmetry in Sexual and Reproductive Worldview among the Ga of Ghana

**Deborah Atobrah, Albert Awedoba, Mary Jo Good*

Mortality and Loss-to-follow-up among HIV-infected Adolescents and Young People enrolled in an HIV Care Program in Tanzania

**Sumona Chaudhury, Ellen Hertzmark, David Sando, Aisa Muya, Nzovu Ulenga, Lameck Machumi, Donna Spiegelman, Wafaie Fawzi*

A Social Vaccine? HIV Infection, Fertility, and the Non-Pecuniary Returns to Secondary Schooling in Botswana

**Jan-Walter De Neve, Jacob Bor*

“Living standards have fallen”: A Free Listing Exercise on the Problems of War-Affected Youth in Sierra Leone

**Yvette Efevbera, Theresa Betancourt*

State Marriage Equality and Adolescent Suicide Attempts

**Ellen Moscoe, Julia Raifman, Bryan Austin, Margaret McConnell*

Girls Health Champions: Promoting the Health and Leadership of Adolescent Girls through Peer-Peer Health Education

**Priya Shankar, Ricky Sharma*

An international population-based survey on adolescent health” The ARISE Network Adolescent Health Study

**Maria Vaikath, Pascal Geldsetzer, Chelsey Canavan, Till Barnighausen, Wafaie Fawzi, ARISE Network Adolescent Study Group*

**Submitting authors*