

Queer Displacements: Sexuality, Migration & Exile

Call for papers

We invite proposals for papers and panels that will respond in diverse and interdisciplinary ways to the questions of an intersection of sexuality with a refugee status, including situations when queer people fall through the cracks of common refugee or migration pathways.

Queer people with the lived experience of seeking asylum are especially encouraged to apply.

Proposed papers may respond to the following topics or identify other areas to address. Questions only serve as guidance.

1. **Queer forced displacement and the law**

How LGBTIQ claims for asylum are processed? Can immigration detention (onshore, offshore, community) be ever justified for LGBTIQ people seeking asylum? Whose and what kind of stories are deemed as credible for the purpose of protection claims? Other topics can potentially include discussion about protection claims specific to transgender people, gender-diverse people or people born with intersex variations.

2. **Policy, advocacy and activism**

How is sexuality reflected in refugee activism? How are refugee status and race reflected in queer activism? How does sexuality influence refugee policy? Should there be differences in how queer refugees and other refugees are represented in activism?

3. **Health, sexuality and forced displacement**

How can we ensure inclusive and culturally competent health care? What are the specific health care needs of LGBTIQ people seeking asylum (eg. access to hormones)? Other topics can potentially include access to sexual health services or mental health services.

4. **Social welfare and wellbeing**

Which service models work the best to support LGBTIQ people seeking asylum? Should there be separate or integrated services? What is the role of peer-run groups in contributing to wellbeing? Should one be collecting data on sexuality and gender identity in the housing context? What are the good practice methods of housing allocation for LGBTIQ people? Other topics can potentially include discussions about access to employment and education.

5. **Identities, communities and questions of belonging**

Where does one, who is queer and from a refugee background, belong? Other topics can include discussions around double or multiple oppressions, questions of coming out and performance of queerness in the Western society.

6. **Art, history and heritage**

Is LGBTIQ/refugee history preserved? Which narratives prevail in history? Other topics can include but not limited to the question of the ethics of art and storytelling.

7. **Intersectionality**

How can we mainstream intersectionality in policy, research and service provision? How can we talk about different identities and experiences holistically?

8. **Trauma and testimony**

How is trauma narrated in refugee protection claims? Which stories come to matter and which get to be silenced? Who owns the narratives on refugees? How can queer trauma?

Deadline for proposals is 1 September 2019.

Please send proposals – including a title, 250-word abstract, and 100 word author biography – to Renee Dixon at renee.dixon@anu.edu.au

Proposals will be reviewed and applicants will be informed of the outcome within two weeks of the submission deadline so that we can finalise the program.

For further information and updates, as well as information about the Humanities Research Centre's annual theme for 2019, **Crisis**, see: <http://hrc.cass.anu.edu.au/research/annual-themes>

Please direct any inquiries to Penny Brew at hrc@anu.edu.au

Conference convenors: Tina Dixon tina.dixon@anu.edu.au and Renee Dixon renee.dixon@anu.edu.au