YOUNG & RESILIENT RESEARCH CENTRE

Y&R 2025 SEMINAR SERIES

9 April: Dr Valentina Baú

Senior Lecturer, WSU School of Social Sciences
Co-Director, Humanitarian and Development Research Initiative (HADRI)

Radio Pods and Problem Trees: Conducting visual research with young refugees in camps



This talk introduces the experience of conducting visual research with young people living in Kakuma refugee camp (Western Kenya). Through the work of NGO FilmAid Kenya, young refugees in Kakuma are invited to join radio listening clubs across the camp to listen to 'Sikika'. Sikika is a youth-produced radio programme that addresses different issues and thematic areas that are salient in the camp. The programme is delivered to young people in the form of radio pods through Whatsapp.

In this presentation, Dr Valentina Baú shares her experience in utilising the Problem Tree as a research method to facilitate a discussion with the radio listening clubs' young participants on one of Sikika's episodes. Through the use of drawing and facilitated discussions, Valentina illustrates the process of reflecting with young people on the relevance, educational value, and contextual limits of the content offered by the radio programme. Ultimately, this talk highlights the complexity of living in one of the world's largest and most diverse refugee camps for the youth, and the challenges in representing this visually.

Biography

Valentina is Co-Director of the Humanitarian and Development Research Initiative (HADRI) at Western Sydney University, a member of the Young & Resilient Research Centre, and Associate Research Fellow UNESCO Chair, Cultural Diversity and Social Justice at Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation. Her research investigates the use of Communication for Development in peacebuilding and humanitarian contexts. Her current ARC-funded project explores the use of media and communication with young people in refugee camps. You can read more about her work at www.c4dpeace.com

9 April, 12:00 to 1:00 PM

Parramatta South EB.3.18 & online

Lunch will be provided