



CONFERENCE CONCEPT NOTE and PROGRAMME

Churches Tackling Gender-Based Violence: Preventing Violence, Reporting Perpetrators, Restoring Survivors

12-13 April 2018

Pacific Theological College

in association with

New Zealand Institute for Pacific Research

The Conference at Pacific Theological College (PTC) will be one of three project conferences that are part of a New Zealand Institute for Pacific Research (NZIPR) project running from August 2017 to October 2018: **Fola le ta'ui a le Atua: Rolling Out the Mat of Scripture Church Responses to Gender-Based Violence Against Women in Samoa: Supporting Church Capacity for Transformative Social Leadership**. One conference was held in Apia (16 March 2018) and another will be in Auckland (June 2018).

The project involves research on church engagement in Samoa with prevention initiatives to address violence against women, and the development and piloting of group bible studies to support proactive church responses. The lead researcher is Dr Mercy Ah Siu-Maliko, Piula Theological College.

The Suva conference will be hosted at PTC, Suva, and its primary purpose will be:

- To explore church responses to violence against women in a wider regional context. It hopes to draw upon experience and expertise from Fiji, and the wider Pacific region, which might contribute knowledge and insights towards the work of the project. This includes both theological/biblical/church expertise and more practical/policy contributions, with particular attention to women's experiences and church engagement.
- To share the vision and rationale, and progress to date, of the project's investigations with interested stakeholders, and to discuss issues arising.

Contacts

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If you wish to share anything about Conference on social media our hashtag is **#CTGBV2018**

Day One: Thursday 12 April 2018

Opening Session

09:00 – 09:10	Welcome to the Conference <i>Prof Fele Nokise, Pacific Theological College</i>
09:10 – 09:20	Welcome to the Vanua <i>Fiji Ethnic Group, Pacific Theological College</i>
09:20 – 09:50	Morning Devotion <i>Students from Pacific Theological College</i>
09:50 – 10:00	Project Introduction: Fola le ta'ui a le Atua: Rolling Out the Mat of Scripture <i>Prof David Tombs, University of Otago</i>

Session One: Myths and Realities About Gender Based Violence

10:00 – 10:30	The Regional and Global Context <i>Shabina Khan, UN Women Regional Office</i>
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11:00 – 11:45	The Difference Church Policy Makes <i>Rev Sereima Lomaloma, House of Sarah</i>
11:45 – 12:30	"Re-thinking the Fijian Man", Ted Talk, Feedback, and Reflections <i>Jope Tarai, University of the South Pacific</i>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>

Session Two: Preventing Violence

13:30 – 15:00	Contextual Bible Study on Tamar (2 Samuel 13) <i>Prof Gerald West, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa</i>
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>
15:30 – 16:15	Contextual Bible Study <i>continues</i>
16:15 – 17:00	Conference Reflections <i>facilitated by Ruby Quantson-Davis</i>
17:00 – 17:15	Closing Remarks and Notices <i>Prof David Tombs and Dr Richard Davis</i>
17:15	<i>Close for Day</i>
17:30 – 18:30	<i>Conference Dinner at JMMC</i>

19:00 – 21:00	IMR Public Lecture: "Responding to Domestic Violence: An Ecumenical Voice to Broken Families" by Rev Dr Cliff Bird To be held in the PTC Fale and followed by refreshments.
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Day Two: Friday 13 April 2018

08:30 – 09:00	Morning Devotion <i>Members of Davuilevu Theological College</i>
Session Three: Reporting Perpetrators	
09:00 – 09:45	Balancing the Scales: Improving Fijian Women's Access to Justice <i>Nalini Singh, Fiji Women's Rights Movement</i>
09:45 – 10:30	Prevention of Violence against Women in Fiji's Faith Settings: A Community Mobilization Approach <i>Alisi Qaiqaica, House of Sarah</i>
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11:00 – 11:30	A Human Rights Response to Violence Against Women <i>Albert Seluka, Pacific Community, Regional Rights Resource Team</i>
11:30 – 12:00	What Are We Afraid Of?: Theology, Culture, and Human Rights Discourse in the Pacific <i>Dr Richard Davis, Pacific Theological College</i>
12:00 – 12:30	Plenary Discussion
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
Session Four: Restoring Survivors	
13:30 – 14:15	Silenced, Shamed, and Stigmatised: The Complicity of the Church <i>Dr Beverly Haddad, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa</i>
14:15 – 15:00	Forgiveness and Reconciliation and Cheap Grace <i>Prof David Tombs, University of Otago</i>
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>
15:30 – 16:15	Violation of the 'VA' by Pacific Island Men <i>Prof Fele Nokise, Pacific Theological College</i>
16:15 – 17:00	Conference Reflections <i>facilitated by Ruby Quantson-Davis</i>
17:00 – 17:15	Closing Remarks and Notices <i>Prof David Tombs and Dr Richard Davis</i>
17:15	Close Conference
18:00 – late	Conference Feast. To be held in the PTC Fale.