

Post-Traumatic Growth in Testimonies from Survivors and Perpetrators of the 1994 Rwanda Genocide (Rwandan Stories of Change)

Six-monthly Report to Advisory Board

June-December 2016

Project Team: Prof Nicki Hitchcott, Dr Hannah Grayson & Prof Stephen Joseph

1. Changes to Project and Team

- Project has now moved to University of St Andrews.
- Dr Laura Blackie left the project on 1 September 2016 to take up a permanent lectureship in Psychology at University of Nottingham.
- Dr Hannah Grayson appointed as the new Research Fellow from 1 October 2016.

2. Changes to Advisory Board

- Dr Laura Blackie joined the Advisory Board

3. Collaboration with Genocide Archive of Rwanda

- Nicki & Laura visited in June 2016.
- Hannah visited in November 2016.
- Back translation of second batch of interviews completed
- Third batch of interviews translated and back translated
- Data analysis underway
- Hannah attended International Conference on Reconciliation and Healing with Aegis in Kigali (Nov 2016)

4. Website

- New website rwandan.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk

5. Social Media

- Twitter feed @RwandanSOChange currently has 248 followers.
- Project tweeted from Kigali in Scotland Africa week, which led to connection with Scottish Government's International Development Team: Rwanda will be a partner country for Scotland in 2017.

6. Academic Dissemination

- 6 June 2016: Nicki gave invited presentation at African Literature in the UK workshop, Kings College London.
- 10 June 2016: Laura & Nicki presented at Memory & Postcolonial Studies Conference, University of Nottingham.
- 9 September 2016: Laura & Nicki presented at African Studies Association, UK.
- 19 November 2016: Nicki presented at Society for Francophone Postcolonial Studies, IRS, London.
- 30 November 2016: Hannah presented to Cultural Memory Research Group, University of St Andrews.

7. Scotland Network

- Links established with St Andrews colleagues in School of Modern Languages and International Relations; also with colleagues in Edinburgh
- Thanks to Amdani Juma we are in touch with Iain Stewart and speaking at the HMD Edinburgh event

8. Engagement events

- Holocaust Memorial Day capital city event, short talk scheduled alongside main speaker, a survivor of the genocide, 25 January 2017 in Edinburgh

- Screening of *Soccer my Saviour* with Q and A with Eric Murangwa scheduled for 28 January 2017 at Byre Theatre, St Andrews
- Reading and Q&A with Véronique Tadjó at literary café, 19 April 2017 at Byre Theatre, St Andrews

9. Publications

- Blackie, Roepke, Hitchcott and Joseph, 'Can People Experience Post-Traumatic Growth after Committing Violent Acts?' in *Peace & Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology*, 22.4 (2016). Published.
- Blackie, Jayawickreme, Hitchcott and Joseph, 'Distinguishing Post-Traumatic Growth from Psychological Adjustment among Rwandan Genocide Survivors', in *Varieties of Virtue Ethics* (by Professor David Carr) still in production with Palgrave Macmillan. In press.
- "Looking for evidence of Post-traumatic growth in Perpetrators of the Rwanda Genocide" in *Journal of Perpetrator Research*. Under review.