

Authors

Ajay Kumar, presently working as assistant professor in Institute of Mental Health and Hospital, Agra. He got his MD Degree in Psychiatry from Kempegowda Institute of Medical Sciences, Bangalore and completed his senior residency from PGIMER, Chandigarh, one of the prestigious institutes of India. He worked as a trainee in child & adolescence Psychiatry, Trans-cranial magnetic stimulation from NIMHAS, Bangalore (India). His keen interests are in the areas of Addiction Psychiatry, Marital and Sexual Psychiatry, Neuromodulation. He is a Life ordinary member of Indian Psychiatric Society (IPS), Member, Indian Association of Social Psychiatry (IASP), Life Ordinary Member of Indian Psychiatry Society North Zone. He has two research publications in his name.

Ajay Maherchandani is an LLM Candidate at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences [TISS], Mumbai, India. He primarily practices phenomenology as his core research area. His questions stem from understanding lived experiences through the subject-object framework. His Under-graduate training has been in law through his analytical engagements have led him into problems germinating from philosophical, political and sociological paradigms. He is now pursuing a Post-graduate training in law, explicitly deliberating upon the ways of accessing social justice for the marginalised. He wants to study legal systems, structures of Constitutional governance and rights-based approach in law. He often thinks on how do we live, trapped realities of everyday experiences translate into a legal and a political order, which is imposed on us?

Alex Garner is the Senior Health Innovation Strategist at Hornet, the gay social networking app. He works to create and develop health-related content, programming, and research while cultivating an online community where users have the resources to make informed decisions about their health. He has over 20 years of experience working as a community organizer, as a HIV-positive youth advocate, concentrated on issues of concern to gay men of colour. Mr. Garner has organized communities to respond to the needs of LGBT people, people of colour, and individuals living with HIV. He founded and managed a national HIV Magazine.

Anna Yakusik MSc. Economics, MBA. 12 years of progressive experience in public health, health economics & financing, and HIV. Professional experience working with international NGOs (GRM International, International HIV/AIDS Alliance), multilateral institutions (UNDP, UNAIDS, the Global Fund), and diverse research teams (Kirby Institute, Abt Associates, WHO) in Eastern Europe, Central Asia, East Asia, and various countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Work internationally since 2008. Driven by innovation and progress. Fond of sports and contemporary art.

Amanda Chalmers is a counsellor at Sweet Birch Counselling and Wellness in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada and she is pursuing a Masters' of Counselling degree at the University of British Columbia. Amanda was a student, teaching assistant, and research assistant at St. Jerome's University.

Anamika Das, an emerging scholar in the field of mental health. She is working as Senior Resident in King George's Medical University, Lucknow and received her MD degree from the same institute. She is a Life Ordinary Member of Indian Psychiatric Society and has many scientific publications and awards in her name. Her areas of interest is Addiction Psychiatry, an emerging one.

Apurva Kumar Pandya is a Psychologist, currently, working as a Scientist-D with the Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar, an affiliate Institution of the PHFI, New Delhi. As a health psychologist and behavioural scientist, he examines psycho-socio-cultural factors that influence (mental) health of the most-at-risk population and assesses the cost-effectiveness of health technology as well as behavioural interventions for diagnosis, prevention and promotion of health. His area of interest includes the promotion of health technology for improving lifestyle choices and health-seeking behaviours; preventive mental health services for children in juvenile justice settings, vulnerable youth and LGBT population; lay counselling; strengthening the public mental health services to reduce inequities.

Bhavuk Garg is an assistant professor in the department of Psychiatry & Drug De-Addiction Centre, Lady Hardinge Medical College & SSK Hospital, Delhi. He received his MD Degree from Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences, Delhi and successfully completed his senior residency from the same institute. He awarded as topper in Class X CBSE Board Examinations in his state and got distinction in physiology and Microbiology

during his MBBS Course. He has 9 scientific publications in his name and 13 national and international presentations. He is the member of different societies or organisations like Indian Medical Association, Indian Psychiatric Society, and National Academy of Medical Sciences. His work interest specifically directed in the field of Child Psychiatry, Addiction Psychiatry.

BJ Rye is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Psychology and Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies at St. Jerome's University at the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. She received her PhD in social psychology from the University of Western Ontario with a specialisation in human sexuality. Her research focusses on attitudes toward sexual-minority groups, controversial sexual topics, and sexual health education.

Christian Hui, MSW, RSW is a cis-queer Asian settler who resides in the unceded Dish with One Spoon Territory on Turtle Island/Toronto, Canada. A registered social worker, he is the Community Engagement Coordinator at Asian Community AIDS Services and co-founded Ontario Positive Asians and the Canadian Positive People Network. Christian is a Community Representative on the Toronto to Zero Fast Track Cities Initiative, a Community Investigator with the Canadian HIV National Observational Cohort Collaborative Research Centre, and a Steering Committee Member of the Undetectable=Untransmittable (U=U) Campaign. He completed his Master of Social Work degree from Ryerson University.

Deblina Roy an assistant professor (Psychiatric Nursing) in the Department of Psychiatry, KGMU, Lucknow, UP, worked as a Program officer in Family Planning PPIUCD project funded by BMGF, Aayushman Bharat program of GOI, in JHPIEGO a John Hopkins University Affiliate. She also had experience as Clinical Instructor in Shova Rani Nursing College of KPC Group in Kolkata, Nurse Mentor in Allahabad District of UP. In Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychology, she wrote a chapter on Therapeutic touch. She has published 3 scientific papers in her name.

Dhanajay Chauhan is a leading TG Activist, and Human Rights Advocate in Northern part of India, Chandigarh. She is a long-standing champion of Transgender Education, and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights [SRHR] in the Indian context and is a pioneer in Transgender Education in particular. She has been recognized especially for her work related to Transgender-specific Toilet at Indian Universities and has been a community organizer, leader and educator. She is currently pursuing a PhD at the prestigious Punjab University, Chandigarh, India.

Dinesh Kataria is currently working as Professor and head of the department of Psychiatry & Drug De-Addiction Centre, Lady Hardinge Medical College & SSK Hospital, Delhi. He is a life fellow of Indian Psychiatric Society. He had made many presentations in national and international forum. He had many book chapters and index publications.

Erika Pahuja, a Senior Resident in

Institute of Human Behavior and Allied Sciences, New Delhi received her MD degree from King George's Medical University, Lucknow. She is a Life Ordinary Member of Indian Psychiatric Society and has three scientific publications in her name. Her areas of interest is Addiction and Forensic Psychiatry, an emerging one.

Ferose Azeez Ibrahim, currently working as senior resident in Institute of Human Behavior and Allied Sciences, New Delhi. He also received his MD degree in psychiatry from the same institute. He presented one paper in national conferences of Indian Psychiatric Society and keen interest to work in the areas of Addiction and Forensic Psychiatry.

Glenn Meaney is a freelance research consultant. Glenn was a student, teaching assistant, research assistant, and course instructor at St. Jerome's University.

J Scott Coatsworth lives with his husband Mark in a yellow bungalow in Sacramento. He was indoctrinated into fantasy and sci-fi by his mother, at the tender age of nine. He devoured her library, but as he grew up, he wondered where all the people like him were. He decided that if there weren't any gay characters in his favorite genres, he would remake them to his own ends. A Rainbow Award winning author, he runs Queer Sci-Fi, 'Queer Romance Ink', and 'Other Worlds Ink' with Mark, sites that celebrate fiction reflecting queer reality.

Keerthi Mohanan is working as Assistant Nursing Superintendent in AIIMS, Patna and also as a tutor in

college of nursing. She actively involved in nursing academics and continuing nursing services education, Bls trainer (AHA). Her areas of interest are sexual harassment, anxiety issues among females and published 04 articles in her name.

Kshirod Kumar Mishra, currently he is working as Professor and HOD of Psychiatry, MGIMS, SEWAGRAM, Wardha. He is a Life Fellow of Mumbai Psychiatry Society, Indian Psychiatric Society, Indian Association of Private Psychiatry, Indian Association of Social Psychiatry, Indian Association of Biological Psychiatry, Indian Association of Geriatric Mental Health, Indian Association of Child & Adolescent Mental Health, Indian Association of Industrial Psychiatry, Military Psychiatry. His areas of interest include: Child and Adolescent Mental health, Alcohol & Substance Abuse, Sexual Disorder, Mental Health Issues in Disaster Situation, Consultation Liaison-Psychiatry. He had received many prestigious awards, made more than 50 national/ international presentations and had more than 40 indexed publications.

Luis R. Alvarez-Hernandez (he/him) was born and raised in Puerto Rico. He received his Master of Social Work with a clinical concentration in 2014 at the University of Georgia in the United States, where he is currently a social work PhD student. Luis is a bilingual Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has worked with children, youth and families, immigrants, LGBTQ+ individuals, people living with HIV/AIDS, adults experiencing mental health and substance use difficulties, community groups, and university

students. Luis has served as faculty and is a published researcher in the areas of diversity, health, and LGBTQ and Latina communities.

Maheswar Satpathy is an Emerging Scholar engaged with Planetary Health and Well-being (Global Health, Mental Health), trans-disciplinary Gender & Sexuality Studies and Critical Development studies focused on Politics and Ethics of Social Justice, and aim to nurture Peace and Harmony. As he continues to evolve, he realises that he is more passionately in Love with 'Philosophies of Life' (his coinage). Originally trained in Clinical Neuropsychology & Community Health Psychology, Psychological Assessment, Counselling and Psychotherapy, Human Rights, Public Health, Drug Policy and Human Rights, Sexualities and ICT4D in 10+ countries. In formative years of his career, he made efforts to break the boundaries between professional-lay by organizing collaborative efforts for mental health, and transformed how we approach community outreach. Consequently, he has taught PG Programs in Clinical, Community and Counselling and Health Psychologies and Public Health at various Universities globally over a decade. He concurrently consults at least to a 2 dozen Civil Societies and co-create values globally. These diverse experiences have substantially shaped his interest in community health and social development. The core research strengths are in Social Epidemiology, Health Systems Strengthening, Health Systems Research, NCDS, as well as Infectious Diseases Prevention Programs e.g. Sexual Health, HIV/AIDS, with focus on Gender and Sexualities (Identity research) using Qualitative

and Mixed Methods. He has an avid interest in the social determinants of health models like Stress-Health Perspective, Syndemic Perspective and Health-Behaviour Models for understanding health dynamics and health-behaviour change, and working on theory development.

Manisha Dhakal [MCom Finance] is transgender (male to female) LGBTI rights activist from Kathmandu. She has been involving in Nepal's LGBTI rights movement since 2001 through different projects on HIV/AIDS prevention, care & treatment, human rights activism, constitutional campaigns, advocacy, capacity building, academic research, and others. Manisha is currently the Executive Director of Blue Diamond Society (BDS), Nepal's leading LGBT rights organization. Regionally, Manisha is one of the founder member of the Asia-Pacific Transgender Network representing South Asia. She is one of the Co-Chair of ILGA Asia Board. She is also board member of IRGT; A Global Network for Trans women and HIV. She was awarded the "Nai Ram Laxmi" National award in 2010 for her contributions to the LGBTI movement in Nepal. On 21 December 2007, the Supreme Court of Nepal issued a landmark verdict directing the government to enact laws enabling equal rights to LGBT citizens. Manisha was involved in court pleadings on this case on behalf of LGBT people before the Supreme Court. Manisha possesses a master's degree in finance from Shanker Dev Collage, Kathmandu.

Martin B. Beaudet has worked in the communications field for over 30 years,

as an actor, writer, photographer, graphic designer, content creator, editor, journalist, novelist, screenwriter, and film maker. His current focus is on narrative fiction, in print and on film. He has produced five films and is the author of four novels.

Marty A. Cooper is an assistant professor at SUNY Old Westbury in the graduate Mental Health Counseling program in the Department of Psychology. He is both a licensed counselling psychologist and a licensed mental health counsellor with national and international experience. His research focuses on the intersectionalities of multiple minority statuses with specific emphasis on sexual orientation and ageism. In addition to his academic responsibilities, Dr Cooper maintains a private practice where he focuses on multiculturalism, trauma, and personality disorders. He is also actively involved in volunteer service, including asylum assessment and supervision of doctoral interns.

Monika Thakur is working as Consultant editor in developing content of psychiatry and psychology and nursing management for the online module at CBS medical publisher. Her areas of interest are in the field of Consultation psychiatry, substance abuse and depression among adolescent. She is a lifetime member of Indian society of psychiatric Nurses. She published or presented two papers in her name and had research experience especially in coping strategies, and depression among female with carcinoma Breast. She also worked as a lecturer in colleges of nursing and guest faculty in Delhi, NCR.

Muhammad Usman is currently serving as a Program Manager since June 2016, funded by the Global Fund at Dareecha Male Health Society, with a new zeal and passion to work for the betterment of community. He believes that “Struggling for something does not assure the success, but success can be achieved with an even less struggle if the efforts are well directed towards the goals”. He has a B.Com and an MBA in Banking and Finance from Mohammad Ali Jinnah University, Pakistan. He has subsequently joined at Naz Male Health Alliance as monitoring and evaluation officer, where he would counsel and network with the queer community. This helped him realize for the first time that how deprived this community was and my small participation was making big difference.

Prashant P. Dharmadhikari has a Masters in English and Sanskrit to his credit, Dr. Prashant P. Dharmadhikari is a creative writer, poet and translator. He undertook his Ph.D. research on the post-millennial Indian mythological fiction in English. He has studied the selected novels of Amish Tripathi, Anand Neelkantan and Devdutt Pattanaik for his Doctoral research. His focus is on finding equilibrium between ancient Indian myths and its relevance in contemporary parlance. He has completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Comparative Mythology from Mumbai University. He has published a variety of research papers on Indian English Literature and mythological fiction. He is passionate about literature in French, Sanskrit, Urdu, Marathi, Hindi and English and published poems in Marathi. He teaches Creative writing, English literature, Fundamentals of Mass Communication and communication skills in English Language.

Pritha Roy, currently working as a Senior Resident in Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi, Jharkhand. She received her MD degree in Psychiatry from K. G. M. U, Lucknow. She is very much interested to work in the field of Psychosexual disorders, Transcultural Psychiatry, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry. She has presented three papers and had five publications in her name. She is a Life Ordinary Member of Indian Psychiatric Society.

Sarah Tsiang is a poet and author of children's literature. She teaches poetry at the University of British Columbia through the optional residency Masters of Fine Arts program. Sarah was a psychology student at St. Jerome's University.

Saroj Kumar Sahu is an emerging young faculty of Ayurveda. Currently, he is working at the Department of Svasthavritta and Yoga, Gopabandhu Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, Puri, Odisha, India. He had several scientific publications to his credit.

Sean Howell is CEO of the LGBT Foundation, working to leverage the benefits of blockchain technology for the LGBT community. Prior to the LGBT Foundation he served as Founder & President of Hornet ; where, he built a 25 million user gay social network. He was a fellow of the World Affairs Council, trustee, and President of the Young Professional International Network. He helps organizations leverage technology to expand impact; serves on various nonprofit boards and committees: UN Global Coalition for HIV Prevention, Mpack (MSMGF), UNAIDS, E-CDC, PFLAG and co-chair at the Center for Public Health and

Human Rights at Bloomberg School of Public Health, John Hopkins University, USA.

Erik Lamontagne is Senior Economist at UNAIDS. He is specialised in three topics: i) Cost-benefit analysis of the AIDS response; ii) The economics of discrimination; and iii) Economic analysis of integration of HIV and other health-related activities. Prior joining UNAIDS, Erik worked as economic advisor for ministries of Health in several low- and middle-income countries. He started his career working with non-governmental organisations such as Première Urgence and Handicap International.

Simaran Shaikh, a Trans woman, has dedicated her professional life to human rights advocacy. She has been a pioneer in India in raising the issues of people living with HIV (PLHIV) in the context of transgender communities. She is a strong advocate for Right to Health for all. She is an Experienced Program Officer with a demonstrated history of working in the non-profit organization management industry, including Indian HIV/AIDS Alliance. She is Skilled in managing Non-profit Organizations, Capacity Building, International Development, Program Development, and Community Development. Simran has developed the capacity of LGBT community-based organizations (CBOs) and networks that work for human rights of gender minorities. She has been a consultant

to national and international organizations on issues of gender and sexual minorities and intends to continue her work on health & human rights for the most marginalized communities in future. She is also the ex- UNAIDS PCB Member from Asia Pacific region (2015-2016). A graduate from Mumbai University currently pursuing her PhD in Trans Physiology. She is currently working with India HIV AIDS Alliance as a senior Program officer in Sexuality Gender and Rights team. She is also the co-founder of RWS – India's diverse chamber to foster Entrepreneurs among LGBTQIA.

Usha Kiran is an Emerging Scholar engaged with mental health issues, well being, social injustice, gender discrimination, mental disorder, caste discrimination and aims to nurture Peace and Harmony. She received training in the areas of such as Clinical psychology, Clinical Neuropsychology, Psychological Assessment, Counselling and Psychotherapy, social psychology. However, she is passionate in the area of mental disorders e.g. Depression, Suicide, social issues like Gender discrimination, and Social justice. She has a B.A Psychology Hons from Patna Women's college and a Master's in Clinical Psychology from Central University of South Bihar. An excellent MA Thesis, entitled "Depression and Suicidal Ideation among Higher Secondary School Students Patna, India" exemplifies her interest in Mental Health.