

From High-risk Sports to Sports as High Risk: Crisis, Capitulation and Creativity during COVID-19

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Sadhana Manik



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Email: smitj@ukzn.ac.za

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Foreword

As an academic with particular interest in the field of physical activity and sport practice, I am honoured to write the Foreword to this book. I have been actively involved with physical activity and sport policy development during COVID-19 as well as prior to the worldwide pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted sport, spanning grassroots level up to and including elite sport, and has led to differential outcomes for people from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds. While COVID-19 casts a shadow over sport and probably will continue for years to come, this book offers some perspectives and reflections that will inform academic discourses and help to influence sport policy as well as practice.

The book highlights the influences of the pandemic on sports participation and the sports industry predominantly in South Africa. Sport in schools and communities in Zimbabwe are also dealt with, specifically sport as part of the school curriculum and the impact of the pandemic on the livelihood of people who depend on sport events and activities as source of income or revenue.

With contributions from seasoned and novice academics, athletes and researchers, this book offers insight on various levels. The approaches include auto-ethnographic and case studies, using various scales of analysis across a range of topics and practical areas, including neoliberalism in sport and the impacts of COVID-19 on sporting activities and society.

The book will be of interest to academics, researchers, students, practitioners, the media, policy-makers, to name a few. It is a timely addition to the growing body of knowledge regarding the pandemic, and its impact on sport.

I would like to thank the authors, reviewers, Editorial Advisory Committee members, editorial team and administrative personnel who have worked together to ensure the timeous production of this book.

Associate Professor Rowena Naidoo
University of KwaZulu-Natal
Discipline of Biokinetics, Exercise and Leisure Sciences

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Contributors

Dr. Francois Johannes Cleophas is a senior lecturer in Sport History at the Sport Science Department, Stellenbosch University and his interests include physical culture histories and sport in marginalized communities. He has published 35 articles in accredited journals, 10 book chapters and several newspaper articles on these topics. His second edited volume, *Physical Culture at the Margins of Empire*, will be released in March 2021.

fcleophas@sun.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1492-3792>

Dr. Bellita Banda Chitsamatanga is Postdoctoral Fellow at the Oliver Tambo Chair of Human Rights Centre at the University of Fort Hare. Her research interests include human rights, gender and women issues, gender-based violence, rights of children and school-based violence.

bchitsamatansa@ufh.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8601-2755>

Dr. Omar Esau is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Curriculum Studies at Stellenbosch University. His teaching and research are in the fields of teacher education, curriculum development and religious education. His master's and doctoral students work more broadly in school improvement and teacher development. In his recent published works, he concentrates on preparing pre-service teachers for the diverse and multi-cultural classroom and for teaching in COVID-19 and beyond. oesau@sun.ac.za;

<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4948-9380>

Professor Lesley Le Grange is Distinguished Professor in the Faculty of Education at Stellenbosch University. He has 232 publications to his credit and serves on the editorial boards of nine peer-reviewed journals. He is a recipient of several academic awards and prizes, president of the International Association for the Advancement of Curriculum Studies (IAACS), a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology and rated as an internationally acclaimed researcher by the NRF. llg@sun.ac.za;

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7096-3609>

Dr. Wayne Malinga is a lecturer in Peace, Conflict and Security Studies at Lupane State University in Zimbabwe. He is also an independent researcher and consultant. His research interests include water resources management,

socio-economic and rural development.

malingawayne3@gmail.com; <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3446-3313>

Professor Sadhana Manik is an Associate Professor within the School of Education at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and she is ranked number one (2018-2020) in kata, a subdiscipline of karate, in the masters' division in South Africa. Her research interests apart from sports, include the internationalization of education, teacher mobility and migration and student access. She was ranked in the top 30 'most published researchers' in 2019 within the College of Humanities. manik@ukzn.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7687-0844>

Ms. Everjoy Munyaradzi is a high school teacher in Zimbabwe. Her research interests include Curriculum innovation, Physical Education curriculum and contemporary issues in education. She recently completed her Master's degree in education at Great Zimbabwe University. evermunyaradzi@gmail.com; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1738-0981>

Mr. Sabelo Abednego Nxumalo is a lecturer in the discipline of Physical Education and Life Orientation at the School of Education, University of KwaZulu-Natal. He is currently registered for a Ph.D. in Sports Science. His research interests include physical activity, physical education, higher education, and indigenous knowledge, games and sport. nxumalos7@ukzn.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3899-5619>

Dr. Renuka Ramroop is a Research Associate in the Research Administration and Development Department at the University of Limpopo. Her research interest is on Home Education, with a particular focus on the Natural Learning approach and Learning Societies. Renuka.Ramroop@ul.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7333-2124>

Dr. Joshua Risiro is a Geography lecturer and Geography and environmental science co-ordinator with a keen interest in education and socio-economic and environmental community resilience in Zimbabwe. His research interests include indigenous knowledge, decolonization, environmental management, weather and climate. jrisiro@gmail.com; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5151-3303>

Mr. Nqobile Sikhosana is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Public

Administration at the University of Fort Hare. His research interests include gender-responsive budgeting, public sector budgeting, public administration and gender equality. nsikhosana2012@gmail.com;
<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8106-8709>

Professor Rowena Naidoo, a Developing Research Innovation, Localisation and Leadership (DRILL) fellow of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, has led the development and writing of two international policy briefs specifically on physical activity and health for children and adolescents during COVID-19 and Beyond. She is currently a ‘Clean Sport Educator’, part of the South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport and is the recipient of the World Anti-Doping Association Social Science research grant to develop an innovative anti-doping programme for adolescents.

Ms. Kimara Singh is a doctoral student in Media Studies at the University of Limpopo; her research focuses on new media and sport. She is currently an NRF PhD scholarship holder and a senior editor and member of the National Executive Media Committee for University Sports South Africa. Kimara was a recipient of Investec Top 100 Award in the category: Arts, Culture and Media at Rhodes University in 2017.
singh.kimara@gmail.com;
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3430-696X>

Professor Rachael Jesika Singh is a Professor and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Partnerships at the University of Limpopo. Her research interests are in Geography and Language Education, and Women in Management. She is the 2020 Continental Winner of CEO Global's Most Influential Woman (MIW) in the Education and Academic Category.
Jesika.Singh@ul.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6372-5493>

Mr. Alphonse Shoshore holds a Masters degree and is a lecturer in the Department of Psychology at Great Zimbabwe University. His research interests include staff appraisal systems for teachers and principals, contemporary issues in education and sport in schools in Zimbabwe.
alphonceshoshore@gmail.com; <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9417-3575>

Dr. Kudzayi Savious Tarisayi is a postdoctoral fellow in Geography Education within the School of Education at the University of KwaZulu-

Natal. He has published widely in a range of journals. His research interests include afrophobia, teacher migration, GIS pedagogy and land reform.

TarisayiK@ukzn.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0086-2420>

