

## Violating Peace: Sex, Aid and Peacekeeping

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25 February, 2:00PM - 3:30PM Level 2, Building BC, Deakin Burwood (Geelong WP ic1.108, VMP 54629\*)

This talk discusses the findings published in my new book, Violating Peace. The book investigates sexual exploitation and abuse by military peacekeepers and non-military interveners associated with peacekeeping operations, including civilian peacekeepers, aid workers, private contractors and diplomats. It is based on extensive field research in Bosnia, Timor-Leste, and with the UN and humanitarian communities in New York and Geneva, and seeks to understand the nature and causes of sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as long term impacts sexual misconduct by international interveners has on the outcomes of peacekeeping and humanitarian operations. It documents how such abuses undermine the capacity of the international community to achieve its goals in peace and humanitarian operations, and its legitimacy in the eyes of local and global populations. It also shows how such misconduct poses a significant risk to the perceived legitimacy of the multilateral peacekeeping and humanitarian projects, and the UN more generally, with ramifications for the nature and dynamics of future peace and humanitarian operations. I show that sexual exploitation and abuse is not a standalone issue, but one deeply connected to other challenges facing UN peacekeeping and multilateral international efforts to address global crises, and look at how policies to prevent such behaviours might be improved in future based on a detailed analysis of why they haven't been as effective as we might have hoped to date.

