



Feminism & Psychology / PsySSA Sexuality and Gender Division Student Presentation Prize 2019 Congress

Feminism & Psychology and the PsySSA Sexuality & Gender Division in 2016 inaugurated a prize for **Best Student presentation** in the field of **Sexuality and Gender** at the annual Psychology Congress. The prize consists of a certificate and a year's subscription to *Feminism & Psychology* (besides the prestige, worth around R1 500.00). *Feminism & Psychology* is an international peer reviewed journal that provides a forum for debate at the interface between feminism and psychology. The journal's principal aim is to foster the development of feminist theory and practice in and beyond psychology. It publishes high-quality original research, theoretical articles, and commentaries (<http://fap.sagepub.com/>).

Kalyanaraman Yamini received this year's prize for her presentation titled 'An intracategorical intersectional framework for understanding 'supportability' in women's narratives of their pregnancy'. Yamini is a Masters Student from Rhodes University. This paper explores womxn's pregnancy narratives in the Eastern Cape Province, using an intracategorical intersectional framework and Macleod's 'supportability' model. Womxn's pregnancies are located within the interweaving biological, psychological, social, economic, cultural and political contexts in which they occur. The presentation argued for an interconnectedness between a womxn's personal (emotional, physical and cognitive) experiences of pregnancy; the micro-interactions of support (un)available from partners, family, friends, healthcare workers, workplaces and community members; and the macro-structures of socioeconomic policies, religiosity, cultural practices and healthcare systems. The Executive Committee of the Sexuality and Gender Division and the editors of *Feminism & Psychology* warmly congratulate her on this award.



Kalyanaraman Yamini (Right), winner of the Student Award for Best Presentation at the 25th PSYSSA Congress, Emperor's Palace, Johannesburg, 2019, with Sexuality and Gender Chair, Prof Peace Kiguwa.

The second runner-up for the Student Award is **Jogini Packery**, a PhD student at the University



of the Witwatersrand. Her paper is titled “Reconstructing Urban Sexuality in Johannesburg: The Millennial Perspective”. The study challenges dominant discourses of pathology in exploring how urban sexuality plays a critical functional role in the individual development, agency, and the upward social mobility of scholarly millennials in the City of Johannesburg, South Africa. The emerging sexual scripts depict how urban youth utilize their sexuality to gain access to social capital, enabling them to navigate social platforms, whilst developing their identities. The findings suggest that urban sexuality moves beyond the critical discourse of sexualised tensions such as sex, gender, sexual orientation, sexual expression, and the social framework of violence and health; it deeply penetrates the social platform upon which social identity and social belonging is achieved. Furthermore, highlighting a power dynamic that is often over-simplified by the public health approach, as a mere factor of risk and vulnerability. These findings move on to express the complexities of urban sexuality that delves beyond this dominating critical discourse of pathology.