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## Resettlement experiences and resilience in refugee youth in Western Australia

Associate Professor Jaya Earnest  
International Health Programme  
Curtin University (Western Australia)

## Invitation

Tuesday, 13 January 2015

10.30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Room A305

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The Australian Government's policies towards irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs) since July 2013 have been controversial, uncompromising and consistently harsh, with asylum seekers isolated in detention centres for prolonged periods. Asylum seekers and refugees, especially youth, have distinct and unique stressors that make resettlement difficult.

In this presentation, Jaya Earnest will report on findings of an ongoing study funded by the Health Promotion Foundation of Western Australia. Using qualitative methods and photovoice, the study explored resettlement experiences of asylum seeker and refugee youth in Western Australia. Underpinned by the psychosocial framework, the main themes emerging from the study will be presented and the important role that support programs play in successful resettlement will be highlighted. The success of photovoice as a research strategy will be shared. Photo images captured by the refugee youth themselves will be showcased.

**Associate Professor Jaya Earnest** is Director of Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Curtin University in Western Australia and Associate Professor of International Health. A Health Sociologist, and Development Educator, she has a background in international health and development, sociology, education reform, and health policy. She has worked as an interdisciplinary educator and researcher for 28 years in India, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Australia and Timor-Leste and has undertaken projects in many other developing countries. Her central research interests focus on the consequences of post-conflict adversity on women, resilience and empowerment among refugee youth, maternal health, and the social determinants of health. She uses mixed methods (household surveys, qualitative, participatory and action research) and is skilled in international field research with vulnerable populations.

*To register, please reply by January 12 to Sonia Mira: [sonia.mira@wzb.eu](mailto:sonia.mira@wzb.eu)*