## Recent Sociology and Culture Studies - May 2014

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Women's Rights Organizations and Funding Regimes in Ghana / Agnes Atia Apusigah et. al.

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Catastrophe - My daughter's gay and an addict / Anne Lapedus Brest Jacana Media, South Africa 2014 189p 978192060136228.00

\$ 28.00 / HB

Catastrophe is the story of a Jewish mother who discovers, much to her shock and horror, that not only is her once well-grounded, beautiful, talented, and King David-educated daughter, gay - but she's also a down-and-out drug addict, hopelessly hooked on highly addictive Cat (a synthetic amphetamine containing the substance methcathinone). When Anne Lapedus Brest discovers the secret life of her daughter Angela, this mother's once safe little world of Shabos dinners, shopping centres and family gatherings is shaken to the core as a dark world, filled with lies, desperation, pawn shops and forged cheques, becomes a daily occurrence. It's a story that will resonate with every parent, brother, sister, husband, wife or friend of an addict: the helplessness, the frustrations, the denial, the terror, the false promises, the financial ruin, the shameful degradation and the noose of unconditional love. Catastrophe is also a wake-up call to addiction, the scourge that affects 1 in every 8 South Africans, that spans across religion, colour and creed, sparing none along its ravenous path. Told in an easy-to-read and often entertaining way, the book will inform and educate on the tell-tale signs of addiction, and give practical help and insights to the loved ones of hope and redemption as addict Angela claws her way into recovery while mother Anne's unconditional love and relentless support for her daughter shine through and finally triumph.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=162261

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Cry Baby / Lauren Liebenberg The Penguin Group (SA), South Africa 2014 291p.; 9780143538615 \$ 34.50 / HB

When Super Mom meets problem child – which one is really lost?

As he nears his fifth birthday, Sam's curious dreams of a seemingly lost child begin to intrude with quiet insidiousness upon his waking state. As Sam's mother, Grace, watches with growing fear the disturbing changes taking place in her charming, spirited son – the fighting at school, the bed-wetting, the hot flares of defiance – she begins to search for what lies behind his nightmares, a search that will take her deeper and deeper into the sub-strata of love and bondage, buried beneath the surface of the family and into its molten heart.

Cry Baby is a story about boyhood, about motherhood, about what binds families, the past to the present, about suffocation and deliverance. It is at once a stinging satirical slap across the face of barren suburban and a poignant hymn to the extraordinary beauty in ordinary lives

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Melancholia of Freedom : Social Life in an Indian Township in South Africa / Thomas Blom Hansen

WITS University Press, South Africa 2013 372p.; 9781868145898

\$ 40.00 / HB

The end of apartheid in 1994 signalled a moment of freedom and a promise of a non-racial future. With this promise came an injunction: define yourself as you truly are, as an individual, and as a community. Almost two decades later it is clear that it was less the prospect of that future than the habits and horizons of anxious life in racially defined enclaves that determined post-apartheid freedom. In this book, Thomas Blom Hansen offers an in-depth analysis of the uncertainties, dreams, and anxieties that have accompanied post-apartheid freedoms in Chatsworth, a formerly Indian township in Durban. Exploring five decades of township life, Hansen tells the stories of ordinary Indians whose lives were radicalized and framed by the township, and how these residents domesticated and inhabited this urban space and its institutions, during apartheid and after and after.

Hansen demonstrates the complex and ambivalent nature of ordinary township life. While the ideology of apartheid was widely rejected, its practical institutions, from urban planning to houses, schools, and religious spaces, were embraced in order to remake the community. Hansen describes how the racial segmentation of South African society still informs daily life, notions of race, personhood, morality, and religious ethics. He also demonstrates the force of global religious imaginings that promise a universal and inclusive community amid uncertain lives and futures in the post-apartheid nation-state.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=162259

Race, Memory and the Apartheid Archive : Towards a Psychosocial Praxis / ED. Derek Hook, Garth Stevens, Norman Duncan  $\,$ 

WITS University Press, South Africa 2013

320p.;

9781868147564

\$ 40.00 / HB

For decades the global gaze on South African society invariably focused on it as a symbol of the inevitable excesses of social engineering, racism and violence under the apartheid dispensation; with astonishment at the apparent exceptionalism of the 'miracle' transition that occurred to democratic rule and the dismantling of apartheid; and, more recently, on the resurgence of newer manifestations of racialisation and violence in post-apartheid South Africa.

This book recognises and confronts this complex history of racialised oppression, as well as the future possibilities and impossibilities of transforming South African society through a re-engagement with the apartheid archive - an archive that allows us to understand the continued impact of the past on our present social, subjective and psychological realities.

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Mental Healthcare of the Elderly: a Primer for Health Professionals / (Ed.) Kua Ee Heok, Rathi Mahendran

Write Editions, Singapore 2014

162p.; 21cm.

9789810784171

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- Older people-Mental health.
  Mental Illness.

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Migration Revolution: Philippine Nationhood and Class Relations in a Globalized Age / Filomeno V.Aguilar

NUS press, Singapore 2014

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Journal of Society, Development and Public Health Vol.1. No.4. June 2013 / Department of Sociology, University of Lagos, Nigeria 2013

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International Journal of Research in Arts and Social Sciences, Nsukka –Vol.2. 2010 /

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