

The Fourth Annual  
Research Practice  
Course Conference

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# **Defining Contributions**

## Inspiration Driving Original Research

Conference Proceedings  
Nottingham Trent University - United Kingdom



# **Defining Contributions: Inspiration Driving Original Research**

Research Practice Course Fourth Annual Conference  
Nottingham Trent University

18<sup>th</sup> May 2012

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Defining Contributions  
Inspiration Driving Original Research

NOTTINGHAM  
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# **Defining Contributions:**

## **Inspiration Driving Original Research**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

We are pleased to present the following papers given at the annual Research Practice Course conference, held on May 18<sup>th</sup> 2012 at Nottingham Trent University. The aim of the conference was to bring together doctoral researchers from the diverse schools of Arts and Humanities, Art and Design, Architecture, Design and the Built Environment, and Education in order to discuss and explore the inspirations that drive original research.

The brief of this year's call for papers responded to the challenge faced by all doctoral researchers to demonstrate the originality of their work and to define how their research will benefit their chosen field. The researchers were invited to produce papers which discuss the elements of originality, creativity and inspiration that first motivated them to undertake their research, and which illustrate how their doctoral theses will contribute towards global knowledge.

The researchers were asked to write about what inspires and excites them about their research, something that, in the process of doctoral studies, can be easily forgotten. They were asked to consider why their research is important, why it is new, and how it makes a contribution to knowledge.

The papers in this publication provide valuable insights into a wide variety of topics, demonstrating the complex and challenging procedures and methods which comprise the research process. They illustrate the way their particular foci build upon, analyse, expand, and cultivate the extant established base of research and theory in order to produce inspiring, new and original theses.

This collection is a valuable digital resource for anyone interested in the doctoral research process.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The conference committee would like to extend their thanks to everyone involved in this year's conference, including the researchers who submitted their papers, the RPC module leaders Dr Chris Farrands, Dr Sharon Ouditt and Dr Mercedes Carbayo-Abengozar, the Head of the Nottingham Trent University Graduate School Professor Martyn Bennett, Shaimaa Elbaradawil for the logo and cover design, and everyone who worked behind the scenes to make the conference a success. We would like to issue a special thanks to the keynote speaker Julius Ayodeji.





# Development of National Benchmarks for Energy Certificates for Residential Property in Malta

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## ABSTRACT

The Maltese methodology for the issuance of energy performance certificates differs from that of most other European countries since the energy used for cooling in summer is taken into consideration when carrying out the calculation. Most states only consider the energy for heating in winter for residential energy certificates.

This study examines the results produced by the Maltese certification process and analyses the certificate values by comparing them with theoretical and actual data for energy use in residential property in Malta. This comparison is used to identify whether the methodology implemented is providing an accurate value for predicted energy use in Maltese residential property.

## KEYWORDS

Energy certificates, benchmarking, residential property, Malta.

## INTRODUCTION

Residential energy consumption has been targeted as an area where national energy consumption can be reduced without affecting productivity. Energy consumption in buildings is considered to account for approximately 40% of energy consumption in developed countries (source 1). Various measures have been implemented to increase awareness of domestic energy consumption and to improve the energy efficiency of residential property.

Within the European Union, one of the primary measures has been the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2002/91/EU which was approved by the European Parliament in 2002. The original deadline for transposition in the Member States was the 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2006, but this was extended by three years after a number of Member States had considerable difficulties with the transposition and implementation of the directive. In 2010, the European Parliament approved a recast of the directive, 2010/31/EU, with a substantial number of additional requirements to the original directive.

The directive 2002/91/EU required that Member States implement four main measures:

- A common framework for the calculation of energy needs in buildings

- Procedures for periodic reviewing of requirements for new buildings and major renovations
- Mandatory energy certification of buildings
- Mandatory inspections of boilers and air-conditioners

Although different states have taken different approaches to implementation, the directive stipulated a common framework for the calculation methodology. This was documented in a set of European Standards drafted specifically to assist in the implementation of the directive. EN 13790 Energy performance of buildings – Calculation of energy use for space heating and cooling provides the basis of the calculation methodology utilised for energy certification.

The generation of the energy certificates has provided a database of energy related property information. Prior to the issue of energy certificates, the only data available for residential property was that obtained by surveys or case studies. This data was limited to small quantities of property. In contrast, over six million domestic Energy Performance Certificates have been lodged in the UK up to mid- 2011. It is clear that the certificates can provide a better overall picture of the energy performance of residential property in Member States.

## **BENCHMARKING**

The term building energy benchmarking is used to refer to the comparison of energy use in buildings of similar characteristics. A common metric for energy benchmarking is annual energy use per unit area. Building energy benchmarking can help a building owner or operator determine how well their building is performing, compare their building's energy consumption to that of similar buildings, track and set targets for improved performance, facilitate assessments of property values, and gain recognition for exemplary achievement.

Building energy benchmarking commences with the development of a database with information on the performance of a significant number of buildings. The next step is to collect the relevant information for the evaluation of the energy performance of the actual building. Comparing the building energy performance against the database quantifies the quality of the building in term of energy use. Finally, energy efficiency measures that are feasible from both technical and economical perspectives should be recommended. The core of the benchmarking process is the comparative analysis. The degree of similarity between buildings to be compared must be specified. For example, individual detached houses consumer significantly more energy than flats in the same climate, and if compared within the same building type would have their energy quality artificially degraded.

In accordance with CEN recommendations, a building energy certification scheme for existing buildings should be implemented by the use of operational ratings with reference values (benchmarks) taken from the building stock in order to establish the classification system. In like manner, for new buildings, an asset rating should be used in comparison with the reference values set by the regulation, the building stock (benchmarks) and the zero energy building.

## **EPRDM – THE ENERGY PERFORMANCE RATING OF DWELLINGS IN MALTA.**

The national calculation tool for the Energy Performance Rating of Dwellings in Malta (EPRDM) is the basis for the Maltese official procedure for calculating the energy performance of dwellings. The procedure takes account of the net energy required for space heating and cooling, water heating, lighting, and ventilation, after subtracting any savings

from energy generation technologies. It calculates the annual values of delivered energy consumption (energy use), primary energy consumption, and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, both as totals and per square metre of total useful floor area of the dwelling per annum.

The procedure consists of a monthly calculation within a series of individual modules. The individual modules contain equations or algorithms representing the relationships between various factors which contribute to the annual energy demand of the dwelling.

The procedure was developed locally and is based on ISO EN 13790:2008 *Energy performance of buildings – energy use for space heating and cooling*, using a monthly calculation step.

The calculation does not differentiate between new and existing buildings and to date there are no benchmark values established.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The goal of this work is the utilisation of the existing data from energy certification in Malta so as to develop benchmarking values for different property types. By extracting the data from the energy certificates registered in Malta in 2011, it should be possible to define values for the annual energy use per unit area, and the kg CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per unit area, as well as to identify how these values can be affected by the property type, building characteristics, and the technologies used for heating, cooling, domestic hot water and lighting.

Two hundred and forty nine certificates were registered in 2011. The analysis is carried out in the following steps:

1. Data tabulation: In these phase we graph and tabulate the certificate data according to the certificate type, and the property type.
2. Statistical analysis: The average, range, mean, and median values are extracted for each property type. We also carry out the same analysis for properties with specific measures installed, i.e. heat pumps, solar water heaters, etc.
3. Formulation of benchmarks: On the basis of the analysis carried out, benchmark values are proposed for each property type
4. Comparatives: Finally we compare the proposed benchmark values with other benchmarks established in states or regions with similar climates.

Type of Dwelling	No of Certificates			Average		EPRDM		
	Total	Asset	Design	Fir Area m <sup>2</sup>	EPRDM kWh/m <sup>2</sup> yr	Median kWh/m <sup>2</sup> yr	Mode kWh/m <sup>2</sup> yr	Range kWh/m <sup>2</sup> yr
FLAT	107	15	92	113.8	135.00	108.90	395.70	357.00
TERRACED HSE	46	10	36	115.1	117.20	108.30	159.60	239.50
MAISONETTE	40	8	32	113.7	137.80	117.30	196.20	298.50
UPPER FLOOR	22	2	20	83.58	168.60	162.40	102.10	252.20
DUPLEX FLAT	19	2	17	138.2	116.20	113.50	119.70	187.40
FULLY DET.	8	3	5	365.8	98.70			
IDENT. UNITS	4		4	117.3	113.10			
SEMI DET	2	2		64.21	303.50			
BUNGALOW	1		1	97.53	83.80			
TOTAL	249	42	207	136.6	132.90	113.50	395.70	371.70

**Table 1. Summary of EPRDM certificates submitted in Malta during 2011**

#### DATA ANALYSIS

Out of a total of 249 certificates registered in 2011, just under 1/5 (17%) were for existing buildings whilst the remainder (83%) were design type certificates, i.e. for buildings under construction. This creates a bias in the data towards newer more energy efficient property. There is also the possibility that energy saving measures may be included at design stage but eliminated during construction due to cost-cutting. The average EPRDM value for all certified properties as indicated in Table. 1 is 132.9 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>yr. The average value for design type certificates is 125.4 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>yr, whilst the average for asset type certificates is 170.0 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>yr.

Single storey dwellings (flats and maisonettes), constitute 59% of the total certificates, and these property types have similar average floor areas (114 m<sup>2</sup>), AND similar average EPRDM values (135.0 and 137.8 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>yr respectively).

Terraced houses are typically two storey dwellings, similar to duplex flats and although the average floor areas of these two property types differ (115 and 138.2 m<sup>2</sup> respectively), the EPRDM values are similar (117.2 and 116.2 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>yr respectively).

Upper floor properties are typically penthouse apartments, with a lower average floor area of

84 m<sup>2</sup>, and a higher average EPRDM of 168.6 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>yr.

The quantities of certificates submitted for fully detached, semi-detached, identical units and bungalows were too low to be statistically significant. These groups together accounted for less than 6% of the total certificates submitted.

The following benchmark values for the EPRDM can be proposed:

Flats and maisonettes: 135 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>yr  
Terraced houses /  
duplex flats: 116 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>yr  
Upper floor: 168 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>yr

The proposed benchmarks should be representative of the existing property stock. The Maltese certificate does not use grading but if this were the case, the values proposed should represent the C/D classes.

#### BENCHMARKS IN OTHER MEDITERRANEAN REGIONS

The purpose of benchmarking is to establish a base point from which improvements can be measured. Since the target of nearly zero energy buildings has been set for all Member States, it is appropriate to compare the values calculated for Malta with those of other Mediterranean regions. These are presented in tabular format in Table 2.

Category	Primary Energy	Constituent Components
Passive house	120	heating, cooling, hot water, household electricity
France RT 2005 Region H3 Electric Heating including heat pumps	130	heating, cooling, hot water
France RT 2005 Region H3 Heating using fossil fuels	80	heating, cooling, hot water
France RT 2012 Region H3	40	heating, cooling, hot water, lighting, auxiliaries
Germany multi-family dwelling	93	heating, hot water
Germany single family house	104	heating, hot water
Spain multi-family dwelling Almeria mainland - median	115.3	heating, cooling, hot water
Spain single family dwelling Almeria mainland - median	157.9	heating, cooling, hot water
Malta multi-family dwelling Proposed current benchmark	137	heating, cooling, hot water, lighting, auxiliaries

**Table 2. Comparison of statutory limitations for primary energy consumption in dwellings**

## CONCLUSIONS

Part of the usefulness of the energy certificate is in enabling the home owner to compare the performance of his property to that of other similar properties. The average home owner has little or no understanding of the energy performance of the property in absolute terms, but when the energy performance is rated and displayed relative to the performance of other similar properties, the home owner is then in a better position to understand the energy performance of the property relative to the building stock. The Maltese EPC does not include the A to G rating scales present in most other energy certificates, so, in its present format, the certificate does not indicate whether the property being rated is better, worse, or equivalent to other properties in the same category.

The data analysis carried out by the authors of this paper on the EPCs issued in Malta up to the end of 2011 presents average figures for different property types (see Table 1). The inclusion of these values in the EPC would enable users of the certificate to benchmark the certified property performed relative to the certified property stock.

It is clear from Table 1 that the range of values for the EPRDM is quite high, and generally of the order of two to three times the average value. This indicates considerable variations within the overall property stock. A preliminary analysis by the authors indicates that the major variations within the certified energy use of Maltese property are due to the technical building systems (cooling, heating, domestic hot water, lighting) rather than variations in the building envelope (insulation, glazing, infiltration).

The comparison between the Maltese data and other southern European benchmarks in Table 2 shows that, as expected, the general range of values is similar for regions with similar climates. The median value of primary energy for Maltese multi-family dwellings is slightly higher than that for Almeria, Spain (the Maltese value includes lighting whilst the Spanish one does not), and close to the 2005 value for France Region H3 (which also excludes lighting). This confirms that the certificate data used as the basis of this study is comparable to similar data available for regions in southern France and Spain.

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# **Frustration-Aggression: How Actors' Claims and Counter-Claims Impact Nigeria's Niger Delta Conflict and Global Energy Security**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Literature on Nigeria's Niger Delta conflict from both Nigerian and Western scholars abounds. This is attributable to the international awareness created by the extra judicial murder of Ken Saro-Wiwa and others, over this conflict. But, what has been glaringly eluded in all these scholarly debates is the frustration-aggression blame game by all the actors. This dearth of literature on this aspect of the conflict has transformed this neglected angle into a fertile ground for both research and researchers' interests. This motivates this unprecedented qualitative investigation aided by a mixture of multidisciplinary theoretical constructs of psychology-based Frustration-Aggression Theory (FAT), the IR Human Needs Theory (HNT) and the Critical Social Theory (CST) to weave through the labyrinth of these problems. With these trajectories, this paper argues that all the actors involved in the conflict are entangled in vicious circle of Frustration-Aggression which the empirical studies during the field work will help in establishing their degree of involvement and impact.

**KEYWORDS:** Conflict, Frustration-Aggression, Niger Delta, Actors, Human Insecurity.

## **NIGERIA'S NIGER DELTA**

In Nigeria's Niger Delta, oil exploration began in 1938 but its discovery by the Shell D'Archy (Shell-BP) in commercial quantity took place in 1956. With the production capacity of 6,000 barrels of oil per day (bpd), Nigeria occupied its proud place as an oil exporting nation in 1958. According to Ojatorotu & Okeke-Uzodike (2006), Nigeria achieved a groundbreaking record production of two million barrels per day in the 1970s. With this increased production, the growing importance of oil to the contemporary world economy is fittingly captured in the argument of Spillman (2006) spelt out thus: 'in this super industrial-techno society, it simply means that, if there is no oil, there is no economy; no oil means no defence; in short, if there is no oil, there is no nation'. This shows the importance of the Niger Delta to the general survivability of Nigeria as a nation state.

The Niger Delta region has over 600 oil fields, 5,284 oil wells, 7,000 km of pipelines, 10 export terminals, 275 flow stations, 10 gas plants, 4 refineries and massive liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects in Bonny and Brass (Watts, 2004). Oil sales account for over 40% of Nigeria's GDP, 80% of the government's budgetary revenues, over 95% of its total export trade. This makes Nigeria one of the world's largest oil producers at the

sixth position and ranked fifth amongst the suppliers of United States of America, providing 900,000 barrels per day or 14% of USA's total oil consumption. Nigeria is a long time member of Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) with its oil reserves estimated at over 40 million barrels of sweet crude. It has a hydrocarbon deposit of about 184 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of gas and ranked the seventh largest gas proven reserves in the world. The exploration of all these has earned Nigeria over US\$600 billion since oil was discovered in the country (Watts, 2004).

## **THE STATE, THE MNOCs & THE PEOPLE: *Oil Fury***

Despite this wealth, the World Bank argues

*that Nigeria's Niger Delta has remained the poorest and the least developed part of Nigeria in terms of social infrastructure and modern facilities', instigating K.K. Aaron to contend that 'no region has ever been so rich in resources, yet so poor (Agbonifo, 2009).*

This impoverishment was as a result of the state's channelization of oil wealth into capital intensive development projects in non-oil producing areas to the detriment and neglect of the Niger Delta region that produces the oil wealth. Ukiwo Ukoha (2009) observed that what accentuated the

impoverishment of the Niger Delta region was the arbitrary decision of the federal military government to centralise oil resources with which the centralist national development programmes were paid for. The paradox of the situation is that the area that generated well over US\$600 billion for the nation never benefited from such a development plan as it still lacks basic amenities and infrastructure. This was interpreted by the Niger Delta people as exploitative and therefore it engendered fury and frustration amongst the population. With just a stroke of legislation: the Land Use Decree of 1978, the state dispossessed the Niger Delta people of their ancestral inheritance, including land and all the mineral resources found therein. This singular act turned the inhabitants of the Niger Delta region into squatters in their own homes. Ojaborotu & Okeke-Uzodike (2006) write that this arrangement left the state with the total control of all revenues from crude oil production and sales.

Ukiwo Ukoha (2009) observed that between 1953 and 1960 when groundnut from Northern Nigeria, Cocoa from the West and Palm oil from the East were the economic mainstay of the nation, these regions representing the three major or dominant ethnic groups in Nigeria retained 100% of the revenue based on derivation formula. Comparatively, between 1970 and 1999 when oil from the minority ethnic group became the economic mainstay of the nation, the derivation was gradually slashed to a mere 3% (Ukoha, 2009). This was interpreted by the Niger Delta people as open victimization and robbery targeted against their wellbeing and wealth. In light of this development, the executive governor of Rivers State, Rotimi Amaech and the former American Envoy to Nigeria, John Campbell assert that the Niger Delta is a colony of Abuja and the MNOCs (Amaech & Campbell, 2010). Saro-Wiwa observes that the Movement for the Survival of Ogoni People (MOSOP) was principally formed in an attempt to emancipate the Ogoni from internal colonialism and environmental strangulation (Agbonifo, 2009). This unpopular government policy infuriated the people and heightened their frustration.

The Political marginalization of the Niger Delta people in the general scheme of things was evident in the stark absence of any link between their staggering economic contribution of over US\$600 billion to the national economy and their representation in the federal government, and appointments into its various public agencies. This is also

manifested in the dearth of basic infrastructural facilities such as health institutions, schools, pipe-borne water, electricity and good road networks (Ojaborotu & Okeke-Uzodike, 2006). The oil industry has remained elitist with its little or no input into the local economy and its dependence on imported labour (Ukoha, 2009). This marginalization reverberates in their degraded environment and devastated sources of livelihood and the human insecurities created by this exacerbate frustration in the region.

Unregulated oil production activities resulting in oil waste with excessive amounts of toxic materials being discharged into fresh water sources and farmlands create huge human insecurities. Indiscriminate gas flaring by the MNOCs devalues human life, properties and wildlife in the area. Canalization affects the hydrology of the region by allowing saline water to permeate the fresh water sources as well as flooding. Oil leakages from unmaintained pipelines conveying gas, diesel and oil, as well as polluting the environment, results in fire incidents destroying human lives, wildlife, forests, farmlands and aquatic habitats.

## THE PEOPLE

Infuriated by this, the people, on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 1998, issued a declaration in Kaima town called the 'Kaima Declaration'. The hallmark of the Kaima Declaration was the issuance of a December 30<sup>th</sup> ultimatum to the government and multinational oil corporations to implement their demands. Failure to comply, the document demanded that they remove themselves from the entire Niger Delta region. To show their seriousness, a peaceful demonstration was en route to the Yenegoa Government House to deliver their grouse to the federal government through their state governor. Incidentally, state security forces attacked the peaceful demonstrators: killing many and injuring others. This incident marked the commencement of armed hostilities and the replacement of the non-violent MOSOP with a more virile group called the Movement for Emancipation of Niger Delta (MEND). In this scenario, Akpan and Akpabio (2009) ask, who is responsible for causing the conflicts? Is it the Niger Delta people looking for better living conditions from their own resources? Is it the MNOCs who degrade the environment of the Niger Delta through their oil prospecting activities thereby creating human security problems? Or, is it the government who is using all the agents of state security and decrees to suppress civil demonstrations



against oppression? In answer, Ken Saro-Wiwa writes:

*if you take away all the resources of the people, you take away their land, you pollute their air, you pollute their streams, you make it impossible for them to farm or to fish, which is their main source of livelihood, and then what comes out of their soil you take entirely away ...if more people in Ogoni are dying than are being born, if Ogoni boys and girls are not going to school...if those who manage to scale through cannot find jobs...then surely you are leading the tribe to extinction (Agbonifo, 2009).*

And, Berkowitz (1993) writes that aggression is 'any form of behaviour that is intended to injure someone both physically and psychologically.'

### **FRUSTRATION-AGGRESSION & HUMAN NEEDS THEORIES (FAT & HNT)**

The Frustration-Aggression and the Human Needs Theories are frameworks that analyze the basic principles of human behaviour in relation to aggression and violent conflict. Aggression is very topical because its occurrence pre-suggests the existence of a thwarted desire, aspiration, promise, hope or some other motive (Mark May, 1960). For Bjork (2005),

*the human being is a meaning seeking creature, who strives to make existence fit together, formulating coherent definitions of an incoherent reality. Therefore, it is when we do not feel able to establish meaning that we become frustrated, which can subsequently lead to aggressive behaviour.*

Moreover, 'we are led by a desire to settle scores and can deceive, humiliate or turn to violence in order to reach our goal' (Dollard et al, 1980 cited in Bjork, 2005). In his case-study research, Bjork found that Swedish orientation towards hyper-complex legalism is productive of situations that lead to disappointment among both police and political demonstrators, yielding aggressiveness in their public appearances, such as the situation when police officers shot live rounds at activists in Gothenburg.

A popular theory for analysing violence and aggressive behavior in humans is the 'frustration-aggression theory' which states that violence or aggressive behaviour is produced when a goal-oriented activity is thwarted or interfered with, which results in disappointment. John Burton's Human Needs theory argues that when the people's human and biological needs are blocked or

frustrated, aggressive behaviour and violent conflict will be produced in tandem with the frustration-aggression in aggressive behaviour analysis. Afinotan and Ojakorotu (2009) stressed that political scientists who have applied this frustration-aggression theoretical mechanism as a basis for political violence analysis and further reviews include among others: Ted Gurr, Zillman, Dill and Anderson, Ivo and Rosalind Feierabend, James Davios and Maire.

Dollard's et al (1939) often used example of practical demonstration of this theoretical mechanism just like Professor Amsel's (2006) vending machine experiment in which the boy (James) is prevented by his mother from getting an ice cream cone after the ice cream vendor's bell had been heard and the boy was on his way to buy it. In Dollard's ice cream vendor example, the observable instigators of James' behavior are the bell of the ice cream vendor and the vendor himself. Anything that interferes with or obstructs the desire of James to have ice cream would be frustrating which may elicit an aggressive response from him. This response is usually targeted towards the source of the frustration. So whatever obstructs the achievement of a desire or want is called frustration (Dollard et al, 1939). A person could impose frustration on another in international relations when an actor disappoints another actor, or causes or disrupts another actor from achieving a desired goal. Therefore, in the opinion of Dollard et al, for frustration to exist, two facts must be established: that an actor is expected to perform certain acts, and that these acts have been prevented from happening. When this happens, the frustrated person or actor may react by screaming, kicking, verbal castigation, fantasies of 'getting even' with galling superior or rivals, a malicious rumor or acts of physical violence involving all sorts of weapons and gun battle. This is called aggression (Dollard et al, 1939), which is usually targeted against the source of the frustration. For clarity purposes, aggression is the response which results from frustration, but frustration is the condition which exists when a desire is obstructed or prevented from occurring. And, aggression is the act whose aim is to injure the source of frustration.

However, this mechanism has been criticized for lacking specificity about the circumstances under which frustration leads to aggression. This stems from the fact that in some situations, frustration does not end in aggression. This situation is usually

termed 'non-overt aggression'. However, irrespective of this, copious studies have supported this theory. But, Dollard et al stressed that it is worthy to note the fact that this 'non-overt aggression occurs when the victim, that is, the frustrated person(s) "feel(s) angry" or "annoyed" or is "simply furious inside'. This is usually termed implicit or partially inhibited aggression or non-overt aggression as opposed to overt aggression. 'Erroneously, this is seen to mean that not all frustrations produce aggression, when in actuality, the aggression is inhibited for fear of punishment which is tantamount to occurrence or infliction of pain'. They therefore maintained that 'the inhibition of any act of aggressions is a frustration that increases the instigation to aggression' (Dollard et al, 1939).

In the case under review, the Niger Delta people contend that exploration activities by multinational oil corporations (MNOCs) have created human insecurities by polluting their water bodies, land and air. In addition to this, their political marginalization and criminal neglect by the federal government have frustrated and driven them to aggression. Contrary to this, the MNOCs argue that the kidnapping of oil workers and attacks on oil facilities have created insecurities which frustrated their targets of unobstructed free flow of oil and gas to maximize profit. Thus, they were forced into aggression. The federal government's contention borders on being starved of funds for its budgetary needs because of the local communities' civil demonstration and disruption of oil activities.

Enumerating the dichotomies of aggression Ramirez (2009) grouped them into the following categories:

- Proactive/Premeditated Aggression
- Hostile/Affective/Emotional Aggression

Affective aggression, noted Anderson and Huesmann (2003) is sometimes referred to as 'hostile' aggression; Fleshback (1964) calls it 'emotional' aggression and for Berkowitz (1993) it is impulsive, thoughtless or unplanned in nature and usually driven by anger as a result of some perceived provocation, predominantly aimed at harming the target. In contrast, the Proactive aggression 'occurs without provocation and is quite thoughtful. Proactive aggression has great correlation with the premeditated

aggressions because they are thoughtful, deliberate and slow and may be used to accomplish a goal' (Anderson et al, 2003). This means that the use of the Land Use Decree 1978, the abandonment of the 100% derivation revenue sharing formula, and the oil production unregulated practices resulting in aggravated human insecurities are proactive aggression because they are thoughtful, planned and slowly executed.

## CONCLUSION

The struggle for the survival and sanitization of the Niger Delta which has been championed by the non-violent Ken Saro-Wiwa and his MOSOP realised after the shooting and killing of peaceful demonstrators in Yenegoa, Bayelsa State, that their non-violent policy was not producing the needed results. This realization laid the foundation for the emergence of a virile organisation known as the Movement for Emancipation of Niger Delta (MEND). MEND has, since its emergence tried to make both the state and the MNOCs change their policies for the betterment of the Delta people by attacking oil facilities. Based on this, the Frustration-Aggression trajectory is applied to the blame game surrounding the State, the MNOCs and the People in the conflict. Primary data from ethnographic empirical study will aid its better comprehension and therefore establish with concrete evidence whether the claims of the MNOCs and the Nigerian State to have been driven to aggression based on the frustrative acts of the Niger Delta People/militants is tenable?

## Soil caked into dried crude oil from oil spillage



Source: UNEP, 2011.

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# Outsiders Outside of London: Fallen Women and Provincial Towns (1850-1890)

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## ABSTRACT

This paper will demonstrate the importance of developing a more nuanced academic knowledge of prostitution via a case study of provincial towns. It will propose that it is necessary to utilize an interdisciplinary approach to facilitate novel understandings of nineteenth century prostitution. A legal-historical methodology will engage with the study of Chester, Birkenhead and Crewe and Nantwich, three previously uninvestigated towns, to produce an original evaluation of attitudes towards fallen women. This will advance our historical understanding of prostitution and promote a deeper understanding of the historical geography of deviance; in turn allowing for the evolution of a more inflected comprehension of Victorian prostitution nationally and increasing its importance as a source during the development of modern prostitution-management policies.

## KEYWORDS

Prostitution; criminality; persecution; class; gender; local management; local press; Chester; Birkenhead; Crewe; Nantwich.

## DEFINING A CONTRIBUTION TO KNOWLEDGE

*Anyone who acquires more than the usual amount of knowledge concerning a subject is bound to leave it as his contribution to the knowledge of the world.* (Bailey, cited in Liebersohn, 2009, p.143)

A definition of a contribution can be 'the part played by a person or thing in... helping something to advance' (*Oxford Dictionary*, 2012). Within the academic study of history, this can be difficult to quantify. With swathes of evidence unearthed and available to be mined, academic history continuously shifts and changes, reflecting the emergence of novel ideas or the surfacing of new evidence. Historians constantly engage in debate to share knowledge, employing therein different theories or methodologies. As Popper asserts, 'there is no history of mankind... only an indefinite number of histories of all kinds of aspects of human life' (Popper, 2003, p.299). Academic history is incessantly rewritten.

The thesis this paper discusses envisages advancing historical understanding of how the factors of region and class, filtered through the use of law, influenced local reactions towards prostitution post-1850. The focus is on three hitherto unstudied urban locales, defined as such by their petty sessions (Birkenhead,

Chester, Crewe and Nantwich). The employment of a legal-historical methodology will be critical, as it is an innovative approach to an otherwise well-explored area of study. It will be imperative in evolving a comparative case study of these small and medium-sized locations outside main centres of population such as London, York and Manchester, vicinities which have been thoroughly investigated. The thesis will engage with historically-located socio-legal techniques, and draw upon considerations such as gender and class. It will also examine the details of the local criminal justice system in operation and reportage in the local media to allow estimation of the wider impact of this legally-inflected management. Using local court and media records this investigation can advance a more nuanced comprehension of Victorian attitudes towards prostitution through use of the law to manage their visibility and challenge assumptions derived from studies on larger locations.

Undoubtedly, the topic of Victorian prostitution is one which has been addressed time and time again. There is something about the Victorian underworld which arouses curiosity in academics and non-academics alike. The notion of a dark, dangerous world lurking beneath the reputable facade displayed by a society to which respectability was imperative is intriguing. It is difficult to reconcile lurid descriptions of the urban poor with

stereotypical images of Victorians, who many imagine to be all starched collars and stiff upper lip or charming Cockney chimney sweep. Victorian prostitutes themselves, those 'somebodies whom nobody knows', (Acton, 1870, p.24) are of particular interest to inquisitive minds due to their association with being extraordinarily brutally murdered by serial killers such as Jack the Ripper and Dr. Thomas Neill Cream: they appeal dually to the human fascination with gore and sex.

However, this paper will demonstrate the need to move research away from extraordinary events and the crowded streets of London and illustrate the importance of focusing on provincial towns. By harnessing everyday attitudes held within localities, a more nuanced history of prostitution can be attained and William Acton's question can be answered:

*Who are those miserable creatures, ill-fed, ill-clothed, uncared for, from whose misery the eye recoils, cowering under dark arches and among bye-lanes?* (Acton, 1870, p.24)

#### **ECHOES OF THE PAST: THEN AND NOW**

*The past is always a rebuke to the present.* (Penn Warren in Cronin and Siegel, 2005, p.20)

Throughout history, visible collectives of deviants have been perceived by communities as a menace, contravening societal conventions, and thus being portrayed as 'folk devils' (Cohen, 1980). Deviating from both sexual and gender norms, Victorian prostitutes are usually interpreted as particularly dangerous to 'respectable' society, arguably generating moral panic. In *Folk Devils and Moral Panics*, the first academic discussion of the issue, Stanley Cohen articulates that such panic develops when

*A condition, episode, person or group of persons emerges to become defined as a threat to societal values and interests... presented in a stylized and stereotypical fashion by the mass media; the moral barricades are manned by editors, bishops, politicians and other right-thinking people; socially accredited experts pronounce their diagnoses and solutions; ways of coping are evolved or (more often) resorted to; the condition then disappears, submerges or deteriorates... Sometimes the object of the panic is quite novel and at other times it is something which has been in existence long*

*enough, but suddenly appears in the limelight. Sometimes the panic passes over and is forgotten... at other times it has more serious and long-lasting repercussions and might produce such changes as those in legal and social policy or even in the way the society conceives itself.* (Cohen, 1980, p.9)

The maxim describing prostitution as 'the oldest profession' may not be factually correct, but it alludes to the long history of recorded prostitution, dating back to 2400 BC (Lerner, 1986). Prostitutes may consistently have been associated with crime, but have not consistently been a cause of alarm to wider society. So why did the Victorian press, political campaigners and moral activists cultivate a moral panic and what impact did this have on legal attitudes to prostitution? Was this moral panic a phenomenon which translated from cities to colour the everyday attitudes of provincial towns? Why did this moral panic culminate in government legislation?

The nineteenth century was arguably a period of sexual repression. However, whilst it was perceived as immoral to indulge in sexual activity outside approved parameters or behave in an overtly sexual manner, issues concerning sexuality are implicit throughout much Victorian discourse. Despite the media censoring overtly sexualized discussion of events, especially those involving various forms of sexual deviance including prostitution, the consciousness of this dimension had real impacts; ensuring prostitution became a focal point for numerous social commentators, politicians, philanthropists, as well as religious campaign groups. Thus, prostitution had a public profile, ensuring that discussions of sexuality progressed from the public sphere into areas of the private domain. It is therefore ironic that we consider the Victorian era to be one repressed when discussing such matters. An actively moralising society, it thus discussed sexuality more aggressively than any of its predecessors, albeit under the guise of science or community welfare.

Prostitution was considered one of the most poisonous manifestations of deviant sexuality: it promoted extramarital sex and challenged gender typecasting, as women were expected to be the 'angel of the home'. Thus, prostitutes could be conceived of as threatening 'that calm and smooth-functioning cog in the machine, the family' (Henley, 1986, p.65). Family values were at the core of Victorian society and were

believed to be crucial to community equilibrium. Despite modern society attributing less importance to the family ideal, similar comments are made:

*There is no understanding of, no identification with, women who for a variety of reasons, but mostly because of pressing economic need, work in the sex industry; no appreciation of the social skills required for a job that deals not only with men's egos, but with the constant threat of arrest and its dire consequences.* (Mitchell in *The Guardian*, 17 November 2008)

Prostitutes remain stigmatized and isolated today, as they were a hundred and fifty years ago.

Urban prostitutes are considered by historians to have been portrayed as 'a figure of contagion, disease and death; a sign of social disorder and ruin to be feared and controlled' (Nead, 1988, p.106). Current indications are that attitudes of the general populace in Birkenhead, Chester, Crewe and Nantwich were less exercised towards the visible prostitute. There seems to have been at least a degree of familiarity with certain figures which, on the basis of the extant historical research, was not a feature of larger urban locales. This is apparent in the local media reportage, where letters to the Editor indicate that the local citizenry did not feel threatened by prostitutes. This may explain the apparent lack of use of legislation such as the Vagrancy Act 1824 to manage their local presence. In the *Cheshire Observer* and similar local titles, locals seem to have maintained that there was 'no ground for the assertion put forth by some of our contemporaries that prostitution has doubled during the past year' (*Cheshire Observer*, 26 November 1870). Therefore, one theme in the thesis will be the argument that the established portrayal of the urban prostitute needs to be significantly inflected in order to take account of this local evidence. This may also allow parallels to be drawn between contemporary and Victorian attempts to comprehend that 'prostitutes are people too' (*The Lancet*, 7 May 2005).

In addition to being familiar to the residents of the town, these women were familiar to the town courts. Sources so far used indicate that in dealing with such 'known' characters, the use of the law in the summary courts was regularly affected by the dominance of local concerns and agendas, such as the avoidance

of costs to local ratepayers as a consequence of bringing expensive prosecutions for persistent offending before the Quarter Sessions. There was thus a vested interest in persuading prostitutes to remove themselves voluntarily from localities. Thus in cases examined so far, in terms of the local press reportage, magistrates were regularly inclined to offer minimal or lenient 'punishments', in return for the women's assurance that they would leave the area. In an article ironically headlined SWEET HANNAH AGAIN, recidivist prostitute Hannah Payne appeared before the Chester Bench charged with being drunk and disorderly on the same day she was released from gaol for a similar cause. Despite having been brought before the Police Court at least fourteen times previously, Hannah was 'dismissed on a promise to leave the city in half an hour' (*Cheshire Observer*, 5 November 1859). Considering findings such as these advances a legally-inflected dimension to the socio-cultural history.

The legal dimension to the public health aspect of the management of prostitution is another area developed by such a comparative micro-study. The priorities of the medical profession have consistently been to regard such women as a physical source for certain types of contagious disease with negative consequences for a wider population: 'Syphilis was widely regarded as corollary of prostitution. Clergymen saw it as a just reward for sin' (Pearsall, 2003, p.230). Due to medical and scientific developments, modern comprehensions of prostitution and disease are less rigid: witness discussions of recent increases in syphilis. Sexually transmitted diseases are no longer solely attributed to prostitutes. Dr Barry Evans has asserted that 'historically, syphilis often involves sex workers but we don't believe that's the primary driver' (Evans in *The Guardian*, 5 July 2006). The evidence will be explored to discover whether smaller provincial Victorian urban locales were in practice more tolerant of this public health aspect than larger locations.

As prostitutes were believed to be fundamental in the spread of venereal disease in the nineteenth century, these women alone were the focus of medical treatment whilst their male clients were not forcibly subjected to intrusive examinations or any subsequent management of the infection. This sexual double standard, 'the view that unchastity, in the sense of sexual relations before marriage or outside marriage, is for a man, if an offense,

none the less a mild and pardonable one, but for a woman a matter of the utmost gravity' (Thomas, 1959, p.195) prevailed despite the fact that:

*Supply, as we all know, is regulated by demand, and demand is the practical expression of an ascertained want... This desire of the male is the want that produces the demand, of which prostitution is a result, and which is, in fact, the artificial supply of a natural demand.* (Acton, 1870, pp.161-2)

The double standard is still evident in societies today, as part of 'a "lads" culture that fancies its young bucks as budding Casanovas, [whilst] women who sleep around are presumed "immoral", "licentious", "wanton", or "loose"' (The New Zealand Herald, 2011).

Perhaps this ongoing hypocritical stance has perpetuated a fear and resentment of prostitutes, in extreme cases contributing to their violent murder. Jack the Ripper, Doctor Thomas Neill Cream, the Yorkshire Ripper, the Crossbow Cannibal, the Ipswich and Bradford serial murderers... prostitutes are consistently the victim of choice for serial killers. Did these serial killings take place as the result of society's moral panics, which portray prostitutes as a problem that needs to be eliminated and presumes them to be an expendable class? Angus McLaren certainly believes so:

*Why were prostitutes singled out as victims by serial murderers? Part of the answer must be that these killers shared in the general preoccupation with the "prostitution problem"... Attitudes toward prostitution had traditionally been divided, some seeing it as a necessary evil, others as a form of "slavery" that had to be eradicated.* (McLaren, 1995, p.64)

Both nineteenth century and twenty-first century newspapers often insinuate that these women were at least partially responsible for their own demise, and demonstrate little to no empathy for their plight. A column in the *Daily Mail* discussing the murders of prostitutes in Ipswich insisted:

*We do not share in the responsibility for either their grubby little existences or their murders. Society isn't to blame. It might not be fashionable, or even acceptable in some quarters, to say so, but in their chosen field of "work", death by strangulation is an*

*occupational hazard. That doesn't make it justifiable homicide, but in the scheme of things the deaths of these five women is no great loss. They weren't going to discover a cure for cancer or embark on missionary work in Darfur. The only kind of missionary position they undertook was in the back seat of a car.* (Littlejohn in *The Daily Mail*, 18 December 2006)

Irrespective of national media furores, the degree to which the murders or existence of prostitutes impacted local communities needs to be established. Powerful opinions such as these often do not translate to local levels. The multitude of prostitute murders over the last decade often has little to no impact on the opinions and day to day lives of the general population. Thus, it is imperative that we interrogate the degree of influence such events had in provincial towns in the nineteenth century, and consider the possibility that the press exaggerates rather than mirrors the impact of these deaths on attitudes towards prostitutes in smaller urban municipalities. Such micro-studies will inform historical knowledge of prostitution and may impinge on our knowledge of contemporary prostitution:

*Human events ever resemble those of preceding times. This arises from the fact that they are produced by men who ever have been, and ever shall be, animated by the same passions, and thus they necessarily have the same results.* (Machiavelli, in Barnes & Becker, 1952, p.306)

## **PAINTING THE BIG PICTURE**

*If you would understand anything, understand its beginning and its development.* (Aristotle)

A principal importance of this research is its potential to shape political and legal policy which endeavours to manage prostitution. As Philip Howell et al argued in 'Managed zones for sex workers in Liverpool: contemporary proposals, Victorian parallels', contemporary regulatory practices are not so different from those of our nineteenth century counterparts (Howell et al, 2008). As this paper has shown, there are significant gaps in our historical knowledge and consequently we cannot fully utilize the past when crafting modern legislation or implementing strategies to manage prostitution, as we are not aware of the impact of these during the nineteenth century away from London or other large urban conurbations. In expanding the number of case studies of provincial towns, the thesis intends to supplement our historical knowledge of



prostitution outside main centres of population and therefore help develop a more nuanced social history of prostitution generally.

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# Reclaiming a Knitter's Perspective

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## ABSTRACT

As a student of knitwear design, the key area of intrigue for me became the relationship between aesthetic and technical elements. As a fledgling researcher, the question then appeared – why does so little of the existing research in knit represent any of the knowledge or perspective that I have come to possess through my design education?

A mixed-method design perspective represents a large fraternity of knit design-educated practitioners, alienated from the research base of engineering or technology-focused work. Since research into all forms of knitted textile design is relatively young, there is still a need to formalise some thoughts from our design practitioners. Existing research into knit tends to be pedagogic, from a perspective outside design, entirely technical or exclusively quantitative - design is underrepresented. This paper accounts for the lack of knit design representation in literature.

By recognising the gap in current literature, this research argues that the previously unrepresented knowledge base of the design practitioner within knit can offer a lot by way of innovation. This is not only in design research, but also in knit research (that is, any research in which knit is a factor) within any academic discipline. It is important in this time of restructuring academic funding and concern over survival of textile businesses in the UK to put forward a good case for the perpetuation of those 'applied arts.' It must be recognised that the nature of the vocational skills achieved can be highly transferrable and contribute to individual, institutional and national innovation.

## KEYWORDS

Knit, design, methodologies, discipline, perspective, aesthetic, technical.

## INTRODUCTION

Knit is a practical discipline, situated within textile production. It is a means of fabric construction involving the drawing of a continuous yarn into rows of intermeshed loops. It is any fabric made by this method. It is garments made from these fabrics. It is also a verbal metaphor to symbolise the compacting, consolidating or connectedness of two or more objects or individuals (OED, 2012).

With these convergent definitions, it is easy to see why knit is struggling to find a steady voice within research. Knitting was originally a handcraft and has been a mechanised process since 1589 (Spencer, 2001:9), and since that time has developed a large range of disciplinary tangents. What follows is a loose representation of those fields and the research implications that have emerged from them.

### *Textile Engineering*

Knitted textile engineering is housed within the larger discipline of textile engineering and is the subject of a significant proportion of published research about knitted fabrics. The principles used are scientific and mathematical, though the outcomes may be used in creative applications (El-Mogahzy, 2009: 22). The outcomes of research in knitted textile engineering are heavily application-focused, with a large portion of the literature produced being in patents rather than academic papers. There are often commercial links with, or industrial drivers behind research projects.

Textile engineering may also be connected by the following titles, which are inter-related:

**Textile technology** - is concerned with the mechanical process of fabric production. This includes development and modification of knitting machines (of which there are many types) and their various component parts.

**Textile Science** - includes those who develop yarns for knitting, this may be developing new man-made fibres or optimising properties of natural fibres.

**Technical textiles** - is a term with a huge variation in meaning. For these purposes, it will mean textiles which are developed for a non-aesthetic application. These could be fabrics for use in any number of industries. Good examples would be medical textiles, sportswear and electrically active textiles (Techtextil, 2011) Technical textiles is a composite discipline, which, inevitably, encompasses almost all areas of textiles and knit.

### ***Knitwear Design (and Technology)***

In the field of knitwear, which includes knitted fabrics as well as technology specifically designed and engineered for clothing and apparel there are also the following areas.

Designers are charged with designing knitted fabrics that will be suitable for clothing. This is a combination of aesthetic and haptic considerations, but also has to take into consideration usability (for laundering, robustness, fit and any extra functionality, e.g. warmth, antibacterial properties), and consider the method of manufacture (Francis & Sparkes, 2011: 55). Knitwear technologists or technicians have the job of programming the knitting machinery to the specifications of the knitwear designers. This communication will involve compromise and revision from technicians and designers to reach an end product. (Eckert, 1999: 1). Other designers or technicians may be involved in developing the shape of garments.

### ***Knitted Textile Design and Crafts***

This category includes practitioners who use knit for artistic and craft-based outcomes. This may result in applications such as home-ware, accessories, jewellery etc. and can be on a hand-knitted, domestic machinery, semi-industrialised or industrial scale.

This aims to be a coherent and covering list, but not necessarily a complete one. There are many crossovers and collaborations between subjects, which make it difficult to provide accurate and fully encompassing classifications.

## **METHODOLOGICAL SUITABILITY**

Knit's subjects can appear to be subdivisions of many different disciplinary subjects. Since this means that the methodology used can be wildly different across subjects, it is necessary to try to understand the generic requirements of working in the knit discipline in order to understand a knitter's perspective. Knit can be both an artistic and an applied practice and those applications can lie within engineering, fashion or product.

Methods used are spread across qualitative and quantitative realms. For example, in knitwear for fashion the qualitative might involve the drape<sup>1</sup>, the handle<sup>2</sup> and the fit of the clothing, where the quantitative might involve the wear-resistance, the air-retention/warmth of the fabrics and also the fit of the clothing. Though these may seem like different stages of the garment production, it is in fact much less linear than that.

In reality, the consideration of these factors often is practised simultaneously. The fit of a garment for example may have implications on the pattern cutting, the yarn choice, the structure choice, the make-up, the finishing etc. This dynamic and complex route for knit design is evident in every stage of a design process.

On researching various guises of knit, it became clear that there was no real evidence of this co-mingling of ideas and methods in current research practice. Various attempts have been made in design to establish a coherent and independent methodology. Bruce Archer laid down many of these ideas in the 1970s by establishing design as a notable and revered discipline, which sat alongside rather than astride art and science (1979a: 18; 1979b: 19) In spite of Archer's efforts, it seems that design has still not managed to move forward with the methodological clarity that it so desired. The move into sub-disciplines has disseminated understanding around new pockets of former disciplines (El-Mogahzy, 2009: 401; Schön, 1991: 60).

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<sup>1</sup> Term used for describing how the fabric hangs.

<sup>2</sup> Term used to describe how the fabrics feel including weight, density and texture.

Textile design research's exclusion from methodological debate is still a topic with great opportunity for development. Elizabeth Bye outlined that there is no coherent way of talking about design research or disseminating it. Instead, scientific standards are still guiding research in these areas, but are not serving the 'academic designer' or practitioner (2010: 207).

This research aims to prove that perhaps - as put forward by Archer (1979a:17) - design is both different from and as powerful as scientific and scholarly ways. Though what design still clearly lacks is the ability to represent itself in research effectively and to put the argument forward that it deserves an equal platform to other, related disciplines.

In knit, research is generally separated into an artistic discipline, or a scientific discipline - with knitwear (a significant industry within knitted textiles) sitting resolutely between the two. So, what is the reason for this segregation? It is true that in industrial practice there are those who serve the quantitative interests, and those who are more concerned with the qualitative (e.g. knitwear technicians and knitwear designers), but that does not mean that there is an insurmountable divide. There are people who are capable of working in methods from both art and science in knit (Underwood, 2009) and there is evidence that learning preferences are similar for those choosing Bachelor of Science routes and those choosing Bachelor of Arts<sup>3</sup> (Sayer & Studd, 2006: 173). Though in spite of these similarities in learning preferences in students, the teaching methods in different institutions are greatly varied (ibid: 167-8).

In attempts to combine these different approaches and methodology, some authors concentrate on attempts at combining functions and aesthetics. Seymour, in her book 'Functional Aesthetics' (2010), is keen to stop the separation of purpose and appearance, but hers leans towards an artistic bent, so the book favours function that is designed to promote an aesthetic, tactile or sonic sensation. This is an example of a frequent tendency for one methodological agenda to overtake the other. A true combination of function and aesthetic is

one which is so evident and engrained in knitwear design, as well as other types of applied design, yet so difficult to come by in knit, or indeed design-related research.

In practical subjects, surely the only way to achieve this combined methodological synchronicity is through the process of producing artefacts. Through the production of objects and human action comes the production of knowledge (Oquist, 1978: 151). An artefact and the process(es) behind it could be the key to showing that the division of artistic and scientific work finds its missing link in design.

## METHODS OF INFORMING MAKING

The process of creating purposefully simultaneous design, function and aesthetic is a slow but rewarding one. The Aeolia project at Nottingham Trent University (2008 onwards) combined expertise from fashion, textiles, electrical engineering, interaction design and craft. The project worked with commercially available and bespoke stretch sensors<sup>4</sup> (variable electrical resistors) for wearable applications. What this project benefited from was a constant exchange of ideas and expertise from the people involved at every stage in the design and production process. This meant that if there was a problem with the integration of the electronics, it could be resolved right back at the textile design or pattern cutting processes. Though the approach may seem impractical commercially, Aeolia demonstrated the importance of allowing open communication between all stages of the design process. A network of relationships allowed communication in multiple directions and did not assume a particular sequence of design (Kettley & Briggs-Goode, 2010; Glazzard & Kettley, 2010).

What the Aeolia project achieved was to show a similar process to that of designing knitwear, but expanded to incorporate various different specialist perspectives into a cross-disciplinary project. The processes necessary to consider the various aspects needed when designing knit are often available within the same workplaces or institutions (though job roles are separated and communication issues arise and

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<sup>3</sup> Knit courses at University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University

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<sup>4</sup> Conductive sensors that vary in resistance when stretched.

are perpetuated over time (Eckert, 2001)). Varied knowledge and skills like these often reside, however, with one person in the field of craft where the design and production cannot be separated.

In Aeolia there is an allowance for personal subjectivity coming from researchers' expertise in their respective fields. This inclusion of tacit and experiential knowledge is crucial to developing innovative and sophisticated projects.

In art and design, it is this unspoken, tacit, experiential and shared knowledge which plays such a vital role in producing new designs (Polanyi, 1966: 20-21, Eckert & Stacey, 2000: 524). In order to allow this incommunicable knowledge to be heard, it is impossible to practise only objective laws onto design research – since subjective decisions are integral to make meanings of experiences and cannot necessarily be standardised or replicated (Creswell, 2003: 9).

As a practitioner of textiles interested in representing the various faces of knit design and technology, it is necessary to rely on both technical, objective methods and tacit, subjective methods. Though during the process of researching this, many questions arise. Has it become too late in my practice to truly separate these considerations? Does the separation of these conditions mean that you destroy the intangible elements on which creativity relies so heavily?

This research is inspired by the varied nature of knit, which causes it to not fit neatly within pre-supposed research templates. It is necessary that further research in the field considers a generic knit methodology to encompass all points on the traditional, methodological spectrum. There cannot continue to be omissions of large numbers of practitioners in closely-related areas when looking at the whole of a closely-related subject. To produce a scholarly contribution for knit it is important that these results be made available to those practitioners within all knit disciplines, as well as those in the related external disciplines. The journey relies on the inclusion of these areas in both the production and the dissemination of this knowledge.

## THE WAY FORWARD

For creative arts in the UK to survive in modern academia, they must face up to the many factors siding against them, such as:

- the UK education system's inequality in ranking systems for arts and science subjects (Baty, 2011)
- applications to creative arts subjects showing large decreases since the announcement of increased tuition fees (Sedghi & Rogers, 2012)
- the prioritisation of science, technology, engineering and mathematic (STEM) subjects in government initiatives without acknowledging the contribution of the arts to scientific creativity (Root-Bernstein & Root-Bernstein, 2011; Brown, 2011).

In response to these factors, there must be headway made on the part of the creative academies in perpetuating and increasing awareness of the 'worth' of their subjects. One way of doing this is to gather the disparate satellites within subjects like textiles and to recognise that the methods and machinery are the same across them all.

Another way of keeping creative subjects to the fore is to formalise or publicise some of the knowledge that is, at present, left unsaid and internal. This would help to unlock the wealth of knowledge and professionalism that resides within our practical and creative disciplines. By this method, it will allow interdisciplinary work between practitioners who recognise that the knowledge required for a project might as easily be found in a designer, a technician or a crafts person. With the showcasing potentials afforded by outcomes such as performance, exhibition and commercial applications, there will be a better platform than ever from which to launch textile research.

In order to secure the place of knit, textile, design or even art's continuation in education and governmental policy, it is necessary to produce 'results' in terms that can be understood by those holding the purse strings. Our intellectual property is worth something to us, to you and to the economy.

## CONCLUDING CONTRIBUTION

The most important reason underlying this research is the provision of a voice for those skilled in artistic, technical and aesthetic design, that they may be recognised when

appraising a subject for its contribution to society. This may be through academic research, commercial innovation or education. It would be easy for aesthetic and haptic contributions to be seen as dismissible in a quantitative world, but this would lead to the loss of key contributing factors to knowledge and innovation across disciplines. Hidden within this knowledge base is the possibility to contribute functionality to materials, products or inventions as well as the creativity so well executed already. It is more important now than ever that design shakes off the appearance of being an impenetrable group of mysterious auteurs and becomes a group illuminated for its wide-ranging influence on society so far and in times to come.

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# **Contributions of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the Economies of Developing Countries**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This paper discusses the definitions of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and their significant role on the economic and social spheres of developing countries in the context of the globalised world. Through these businesses, new strategies channel in each country, in harmony with their own system, as well as cultural and political models. With the active participation of the International Labour Organization for more than twenty-five years, it has been carrying out programs of technical cooperation, information networks, research and brokerage with international financial institutions and SME entrepreneurs. This paper depends on a literature review and previous studies. There is little doubt among public officials, legal and economic scholars and businessmen alike about the importance that SMEs have for the economic and social development of countries. However, there is no consensus on how these companies should be identified since the concept of 'small business' is not clearly defined. The concept, although commonly used, is somewhat vague, suggesting that an undertaking that is not large is a 'small business', without being more specific.

## **KEYWORDS**

SMEs, Economy, Developing Countries.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The small business enterprises play an important role in providing job opportunities, in addition to their significant share in total value added to a developing country's economy, and they provide goods and services at affordable prices for a substantial segment of the low income group (Namani, 2009), which is seen as a useful tool for encouraging the investment of small savings. SMEs are also able to play a more positive role in the development of exports, in helping to develop new products, and at certain levels of productivity can behave like nutritious large industrial enterprises which are currently exhibiting in the context of globalisation (Kongolo, 2010). Through these businesses, new strategies channel in each country, in harmony with their own systemic, cultural and political models. With the active participation of the International Labour Organization for more than twenty-five years, it has been carrying out programs of technical cooperation, information networks, research and brokerage with international financial institutions and SME entrepreneurs. There is little doubt among public officials, legal and economic scholars and businessmen alike about the importance that SMEs have on the economic and social development of countries. However, there is no consensus on how these companies should be identified since the

concept of 'small business' is not clearly defined. The concept, although commonly used, is somewhat vague, suggesting that an undertaking that is not large is a 'small business', without being more specific (Ojala & Tyrväinen, 2009). This paper aims to study the developmental role, concepts and importance of small business enterprises in developing countries in the light of growing interest, as well as identifying the most significant challenges facing development.

## **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

This paper aims to form a clear picture on the definitions for small and medium enterprises, and will focus on the following objectives with respect to developing countries:

- To determine the impact of SMEs on economic growth and development.
- To find out the significance of SMEs in job creation, employment and other contributions.

## **RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

- What is the role of small and medium enterprises in the economic development of a developing nation?
- How do small and medium enterprises improve the economic conditions of a developing country?

## RESEARCH METHOD AND DESIGN

The definitions reviewed revealed the nature of SMEs and their significance in the economic growth and development of developing countries. It also provides a detailed outline of the research design of the proposed study. This research is based on secondary data accumulation taken from various journals, articles and books. Secondary research depicts information assembled from literature, broadcast media, publications, & other non-human origins. This type of research does not necessitate human fields.

The research method used is qualitative. Qualitative research is practically more immanent than quantitative research. This type of study is often less costly than quantitative studies and is exceedingly effectual in acquiring information. It is frequently the method used in instances where valued measurement is not required.

## BACKGROUND AND DEFINITION OF SMEs

In general terms, there is no standard definition of SMEs: instead the concept has been used in different contexts using various meanings (Hamad, 2007). The definitions used by federal and provincial governments, as well as by private parties, are usually based upon qualitative or quantitative criteria, or on a mix of both, which is arguably the ideal scenario for the purposes of defining and identifying SMEs. The most common qualitative aspects used to define the term include an SMEs' geographical scale or operations, degrees of independence and type of management (Intarakamnerd, Chairatana & Tangchitpiboon, 2002).

Small and medium enterprises differ markedly in size, organisation and type of activity. The complexity and structure of the management of an undertaking also serve to discern SMEs from larger entities. Usually, large enterprises tend to be managed by skilled professional people who are charged with hierarchical authority. Administrative roles are also divided up according to a company's operational functions (traditionally: production, sales, financing, marketing, etc.). Conversely, SMEs are frequently administered by personal or direct management (Balzat & Hanusch 2004). The concept of personal or direct management in SMEs refers to persons who usually own and operate the undertaking and do not receive remuneration in the form of a salary for the services they render.

SME stands for small and medium enterprises. These are the company's commercial, industrial or other areas that have a small number of workers and moderate-income records. Another such term is MSMEs, the acronym for micro, small and medium enterprises. In this case, the term also includes smaller firms such as sole proprietorships. The definition of SMEs varies by country, for example: companies are ranked according to their annual sales and according to area (an industrial SMEs can have a turnover which in another economic sector would place the company among the largest). In other countries, the concept of the SME is associated with the number of employees. Enterprises comprising between 1 and 10 employees are referred to as 'micro'; and those comprising between 11 and 50 are referred to as SME. These figures, however, may vary according to region (Awang 2004).

## CRITERIA FOR DEFINING SMEs

It is important to cover both the quantitative aspects and the qualitative measures.

On one hand the quantitative criteria include:

1. Number of employees: One of the most widely used criterion to define SMEs.
2. Value of fixed assets: This criterion is used by a number of countries.
3. Turnover per enterprise: This criterion is also used by some countries.

On the other hand, the qualitative measures tend to focus on particular characteristics of SMEs that are inherent in their nature. The following are common qualitative criteria found in SMEs: (a) management and ownership are rarely separate; (b) control over business operations and decisions reside with one or two persons who are usually family members; (c) project's equity is not publicly traded; (d) personal security of the owners is required to secure debt acquisition and repayment; (e) the level and number of formal contractual relations are kept at a minimum level; and (f) personal objectives of the owners guide and influence business decisions directly (Alasrag, 2007).

Country	Definition of SME	Measurement
China	Varies with Industry, usually less than 100 employees	Employment
Hong Kong	Manufacturing- 100 or fewer employees Other- 50 or 100 employees	Employment
Indonesia	Less than 100 employees	Employment
Japan	Wholesale- less than 100 employees or JPY 100 million assets Services- less than 100 employees or JPY 50 million assets Retail- less than 50 employees or JPY 50 million assets Other- less than 300 employees or JPY 300 million assets	Employment and Assets
Malaysia	Manufacturing- less than MYR 25 million or 150 employees Services- less than MYR 5 million or 50 employees Different for Bumiputra enterprises	Shareholders, Funds and Employment
Philippines	Less than 200 employees or PHP 60 million assets	Employment and Assets
Republic of Korea	Manufacturing – less than 300 employees, or KRW 8 billion assets Wholesale – less than 100 employees or KRW 10 billion annual sales revenue	Employment, Assets and Sales Revenue
Singapore	Manufacturing – fixed assets worth SGD 15 million or less Services – less than 200 employees	Employment and Assets
Taiwan	Manufacturing – less than TWD 80 million of paid-in capital or less than 200 employees Other – less than TWD 100 million annual sales revenue or less than 50 employees	Sales Revenue and Employment
Thailand	Manufacturing and services – less than 200 employees or THB 200 million assets Wholesale – less than 50 employees or THB 100 million assets Retail – less than 30 employees or THB 60 million assets	Employment and Assets

Source: <http://www.apdip.net/publications/iespprimerseprimer-sme>

**Table 1: Standard Definitions of MSEs in the Asia-Pacific Region**

Country	Small	Medium
Egypt	5 to 14 employees	15 to 49 employees
Lebanon	10 to 49 employees	50 to 99 employees
Oman	6 to 20 employees	21 to 100 employees
Jordan	5 to 19 employees	20 to 99 employees
UAE	10 to 49 employees	50 to 499 employees
Tunisia	11 to 49 employees	50 to 99 employees

Source: Jordan Human Development Report, 2011. United Nations Development Programme (Amman-Jordan).

**Table 3: Standard Definitions of MSEs in Europe**

Enterprise category	Headcount	Turnover	Balance sheet total
Micro	< 10	≤€ 2 million	≤€ 2 million
Small	< 50	≤€ 10 million	≤€ 10 million
Medium-sized	< 250	≤€ 50 million	≤€ 43 million

Source: European Commission Enterprise and Industry, 2011.

**Table 2: Standard Definitions of MSEs across MENA**

### THE IMPORTANCE OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES

According to Alasrag (2007), the importance of supporting and upgrading SMEs in developing countries is explained as follows:

- SMEs constitute about 99% of the total economic institutions in private non-agriculture in Egypt, contribute around 80% of the total added value produced by the private sector, and employ nearly two thirds of the labour force and three quarters of workers in jobs outside the private sector for agriculture. In Kuwait this sector constitutes about 90% of

private working institutions, including immigrant labour totalling about 45% of the total labour force. In Lebanon, they form more than 95% of total enterprises and contribute roughly 90% of the jobs. In the United Arab Emirates the SMEs form approximately 94.3% of the State's economy, employ about 62% of the labour force and contribute about 75% of the GDP of the State.

- SMEs provide employment opportunities for a broad base of the Arab

labour force – this is estimated at about one third of the workforce or more.

- SMEs were involved in the addendum to the national economy where this contribution was estimated at about 96% of GDP in Yemen in 2005, and about 77%, 59%, and 25% in each of Algeria, Palestine, and Saudi Arabia respectively during the same year, while its contribution ranged between 25% and 40% of the gross Egyptian GDP.

- SMEs represent a successful way to mobilize small savings which are reinjected in the form of investments.

- SMEs are effective mechanisms in providing goods and services at low costs and price for citizens with low incomes.

- SMEs represent the basic foundation by which the private sector in the Arab States operates and therefore to support these projects is to support and strengthen the role of the private sector in economic activity. (Alasrag, 2007) and (Hamad, 2007).

### ***Attracting foreign investment:***

UNCTAD's leadership report encourages the role of small and medium enterprises and is a field survey and studies of certain situations conducted after the Asian financial crisis in seven Asian countries. The report highlighted the possibility that these institutions could raise the share of Asian foreign direct investment to more than 10%, and that they could attract as much as none-to-few foreign investments and enter into joint ventures with foreign partners. This could potentially contribute to the transfer of modern technology and expansion of the productive base, and also improve product quality and enhance export capacity, especially in the productive sectors emerging in the country. In short, the importance of small and medium businesses in their ability to contribute to the achievement of development goals, economic and social, are outlined as follows:

1. Support for economic growth, prosperity and economic revitalisation of the wheel.
2. Providing job opportunities.
3. Doubling the value added to the GDP of the economy.
4. Promote policies to combat unemployment and poverty reduction.
5. The composition of forward and backward linkages in the national economy through supply networks, distribution, maintenance and other terms are mutually complementary and provide large enterprises in services.

6. To encourage the spirit of innovation, creativity and inventions.

7. Attracting foreign investment and the exploitation of local resources available and market expansion.

8. The development and human capacity development and technical assistance.

9. Enhancing the competitiveness of the country.

10. The ability to create groupings of competitive production (Clusters), which work to deepen the capital formation through the lines and reciprocal link networks. This seeks to increase the added value generated by these industries. These are categorized as having more than 100 workers and less than 1000 workers.

### **DISCUSSION**

One of the most deeply rooted opinions that prevail in the Western world is that '... small businesses do not have significant contributions toward the economy of countries and that sooner or later its role will diminish significantly' (Audretsch 2004, p. 267). They use the example of the manufacturing sector, where large firms were superior to small in all aspects, from economic productivity and technological advancement to job security and compensation.

As evidence to the contrary, as it happened in the mid-70's, the structure of the manufacturing sector in most developed countries began to show 'cracks' and left only the best performing small businesses. As for the production of steel, 'mini-mills' were created and rapidly expanded, while the large plants were closed and the number of workers was reduced (Caputo, Cucchiella, Fratocchi, Pelagagge & Scacchia 2002).

A precise definition identifying a small business does not exist. However, there are at least four characteristics:

1. Small businesses play significant roles in the process of technological change, and are a source of considerable innovative activity.

2. SMEs act as agents of change in a globalised economy which is generating a lot of turbulence. Competition creates an additional dimension that cannot capture the traditional and static market structures.

3. International competition creates a level of market positioning and assures the promotion of competition.

4. Small and medium enterprises are a source of job creation.

## ADVANTAGES OF SMALL AND MEDIUM FIRMS

This section lists the advantages of SMEs, as it is essential to know the benefits that these types of companies provide. The advantages are given according to their size:

### Small Firms

1. They have the ability to generate jobs.
2. They have the ability to adapt and assimilate technology.
3. They contribute to regional development as a result of their establishments in various regions.
4. They can be flexible according to the market size (they can increase or decrease supply when necessary).
5. They require their employees to have simple knowledge, which provides solutions to problems in hand (for the low occupancy of staff).
6. The planning and organization do not require much capital.
7. They maintain control units to allow an adequate link between the administrative and operational functions.
8. They produce and sell goods and services at competitive prices (because their expenses are not excessive and generate significant profits).

### Medium Firms

1. They have the ability to expand and adapt to market conditions.
2. They are highly mobile, which allows them to increase or decrease the size of the plant, and exchange the necessary technical processes.
3. Through their dynamism, they have the room to grow and turn into big companies.
4. They have the ability to absorb significant portion of the population economically, due to its ability to create jobs.
5. They have the ability to assimilate and adapt to new technologies with relative ease.
6. They are established in various regions of the country and contribute to local and regional development.
7. They have effective management, although, in many cases, decisions are influenced by personal opinions or business owners.

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# **'A weake man in body': Health, Manhood, and Political Authority in Early Modern England**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This paper explores the relationship between manhood and political authority through the royal favourite to James I, the Duke of Buckingham. In particular, Buckingham's bodily health will be examined to determine how chronic illness influenced perceptions of him as a man, and therefore a legitimate political authority. Using Buckingham as a lens through which to view early modern constructions of manhood the paper seeks to determine the importance of the body in establishing the authority of political figures.

## **KEYWORDS**

Early Stuart history, early modern political culture, gender history

From 1618 until his assassination in 1628 George Villiers, the Duke of Buckingham, enjoyed a position of unrivalled power and influence within England. As royal favourite to both James I and Charles I he controlled virtually all appointments to important offices and acted as the King's most trusted advisor in all affairs. As Lord Admiral, Buckingham had a direct role in the formulation and execution of foreign policy. Next to either of the monarchs under which he served, he was the most powerful man in England for over ten years.

It is unsurprising then, that he has long been of particular interest to historians of political culture. That his rule coincided with one of the most contentious and factional periods in English political history has served to heighten the interest of political historians. However, purely political explanations of the divisiveness Buckingham inspired are somewhat unsatisfying. His widespread unpopularity and the visceral hatred he could inspire in rivals cannot be adequately explained by differences in political ambition or ideology. Rather, a more comprehensive accounting of Buckingham as a man is necessary to understand his significance in early modern English culture.

In several ways Buckingham represented an atypical man of the period, particularly one who wielded such political authority. Unlike most of the other men within the upper echelons of power, Buckingham came from a relatively obscure family in Leicestershire.

Despite holding the highest military offices in the land, he was not an accomplished horseman, nor soldier – his first taste of battle came in the last year of his life. He was also incredibly young – both the youngest Lord Admiral and privy councillor England had ever known. Perhaps most significant of all, Buckingham's rise to power came about through his physical beauty and ability to master the courtly skills of the masque. It was these virtues which caught the eye of James I and elevated Buckingham to the position of royal favourite.

My research attempts to incorporate these aspects of Buckingham's manhood into an account of his political authority. Each of these atypical traits placed Buckingham in the context of fluid definitions of manhood, martial valour, the body, family structure, sexuality, and youth. In each case Buckingham's ability to challenge, conform to, adjust, or even re-fashion these contested definitions had dramatic implications on his claims to political authority. Conversely, Buckingham's dominant position at court meant that his self-fashioned form of manhood influenced courtiers seeking to win favour by emulating Buckingham thereby supporting his version of manhood.

The sources I will be investigating in some sense reflect the drawing together of the political and the personal I have described. There is a split between political material (parliamentary speeches, state papers, diplomatic correspondence) and previously underused sources now being investigated by

cultural historians (underground libel poetry and the gossip of newsletter writers). Together these sources demonstrate how Buckingham was perceived within political culture, and also how those perceptions influenced tangible political events. To provide an example I will be discussing Buckingham's bodily health and how it affected perceptions of his manhood and political authority. Throughout his political life Buckingham was hampered by a series of debilitating illnesses, usually brought on by anxiety and the pressures of governance. Such highly visible bodily failures served to frustrate allies and provide fuel for the criticism of rivals.

However, in order to assess the impact of Buckingham's health on his manhood his body must be placed within the physiological context of the seventeenth century. Heavily influenced by the classical physician Galen, early modern physiological texts outlined what gender historians have termed the 'one-sex' model. (Fletcher, 1995, pp. 42-3) According to Galen, male and female sexual organs were merely inversions of each other. Thus, reasoned early modern medical texts, bodies retained the ability to move from one gender to another. (Fisher, 2006, pp. 5-11) Such a transition from man to woman could be affected by a man taking on effeminate qualities, such as dress, hair style, or particularly unmanly character traits such as cowardice. It is certainly possible that frailty – a particularly feminine quality – could similarly threaten the 'maleness' of the body.

However, while the one-sex model was intelligible at the theoretical level, in everyday life intrinsic differences between male and female bodies were unavoidably apparent. Child birth and menstruation in particular acted as definitive differences between male and female bodies. (Foyster, 1999 pp. 28-29) It is unclear how early modern men and women reconciled this practical lived experience with the theoretical information laid out in medical texts. An analysis of how Buckingham's tendency towards illness was perceived by others could provide clues as to how theory and experience were brought to bear on determining the effect of illness on the 'maleness' of a body.

Buckingham's body stands as an interesting case within this tension due to its thoroughly ambivalent position within the political world. Buckingham was seen, even by his opponents, as an admirable physical specimen.

Buckingham plays the villain in Simonds D'Ewes political memoirs, but D'Ewes still finds it necessary to describe the favourite's admirable physical qualities. Buckingham was 'full of delicacy and handsome features' and his faults, though heinous, 'proceeded rather from some Jesuitical incendiaries about him, than from his own nature, which his very countenance promised to be affable and gentle.' (D'Ewes, 1845 pp. 166-7.) Modern historians have likewise pointed to the role his body played in his rise to power. Michael Young says his two assets are 'long slender legs and his childlike face' (Young, 2000, p. 75). Smuts says his portraits are 'an ivory-faced doll stuffed inside huge concoctions of diamond-studded fabric'. (Smuts, 1987, p. 104)

It was these 'handsome features' which caught the attention of James I and catapulted Buckingham into prominence at court. Buckingham proved to be the last in a string of young, handsome men James took as favourites, and most likely lovers. Through his relationship with James Buckingham became the most powerful subject in England, serving as Lord Admiral of the kingdom, dominating the distribution of royal offices, and playing the leading role in formulating foreign policy. His position owed much to his body.

However, despite the near universal admiration for the outward appearance of Buckingham's body it proved surprisingly susceptible to illness. In the first twenty months of his political career Buckingham established a pattern of constant bouts of illness. Prolific newsgatherer John Chamberlain documented the alarming frailty of the new favourite. On April 20, 1616 he noted that 'Sir George Villiers hath ben crasie of late not without suspicion of the small pocks.' (Chamberlain, 1939 vol. I, p. 623) Again in December, while under the stress of competing for the King's affections with a new potential favourite Chamberlain noted that 'he hath ben crasie since he came to Newmarket.' (Chamberlain, 1939 vol. II, p. 41) Just two months later, after Buckingham had weathered the challenge and been appointed to the privy council, Chamberlain remarked: 'he is become crasie of late and takes much phisicke.' (Chamberlain, 1939 vol. II, p. 52) In April, 1617 a rumour that Buckingham 'shold be dead sodainly' proved false. (Chamberlain, 1939 vol. II, 71) By January of 1618 Buckingham had firmly established a reputation of physical frailty. Another newsletter writer, Nathaniel Brent, provides an



enlightening narrative of how Buckingham's illnesses manifest themselves:

*The last weeke the marquis of Buck as he came from the King in the night mistook some steps of the stayres and with a fall sprayned his foote which made him use the help of a staffe divers dayes after. On Monday night last he felt him self very ill at ease. But after he had discharged by stomacke and expused him self in his bed 14 or 15 houres he was exceeding wel. He hath commonly such a fit once a moneth.* (SP 14/95/84)

What appears to be a common thread in Buckingham's 'fits' is the connection to some outside stimulus that puts Buckingham 'ill at ease' – whether it be an unlucky slip or the challenge of rival, and the anxiety which follows. Roger Lockyer has argued that Buckingham's illnesses were often tied to the stresses and anxieties that came with political office. (1981, p. 56)

However, although Buckingham's delicate constitution is highly visible in the newsletters of John Chamberlain, what is less clear is how this frailty was perceived by the political community. Reference to Buckingham's frail constitution is noticeably limited in the libel literature. This is surprising considering the sheer volume of criticism leveled against him through manuscript poetry. These politically themed poems, which were written and widely read by the politically conscious elite of England, frequently mocked Buckingham's greed, sexuality, youth, and incompetence. However, such poets are comparatively silent on Buckingham's health. One exception appears to be Buckingham's tendency towards seasickness, an unfortunate trait in the Lord Admiral of the kingdom. One such poem used the failure of Buckingham's naval expedition against the French in 1627 to mock Buckingham's weak stomach:

*Did winter make they chappes beginne to chatter?/Could not the surging and distempered seas,/Thy queasie stomacke, George, with sweetness please?* (Rous, 1856)

Another, more pointed attack, drew a connection between Buckingham's 'queasie stomacke' and his inadequate victualing which was held responsible for the expedition's failure. The poet predicted that '[t]hat the ship beife would stincke & make him sicke'. (Bellany and McRae, 2005, Oii4) In both cases

Buckingham's susceptibility to sickness is only made relevant through an association with military failure and administrative incompetence.

Another way to approach the significance of Buckingham's tendency to take to bed at moments of great pressure is to focus on how the illnesses were received politically. Sickness, or even feigned sickness, appears to have been a familiar element of early modern political life. Sir Walter Raleigh feigned sickness as part of a failed plot to escape the Tower in 1618. (SP 14/98/84) While under threat of impeachment by parliament in 1624 the Earl of Middlesex pleaded infirmity and refused to appear before the house. However, Prince Charles refused to accept Middlesex's claim and sent a delegation to uncover whether it was 'but a tricke to gayne tyme'. (SP 14/164/111) At least one member of the party, the Earl of Southampton expressed his distaste for both Middlesex and the task itself saying 'he had no skill to feele my Lord Treasurers pulse'. (SP 14/164/111) It requires no stretch of the imagination to believe that the disgruntled Southampton, veteran of continental wars and erstwhile outspoken opponent of Buckingham who himself was once again incapacitated at the time, was expressing a similar distaste for an England ruled from sickbeds.

Indeed, the infirmity Buckingham suffered from while Middlesex faced his political ruin proved to be the most lasting and significant of his life. In 1624 Buckingham risked the disapproval of his master, James I, by pushing for war against Spain – a war the King had long resisted. The campaign involved the coordination of several different factions, both domestic and continental, all of which looked to Buckingham as the key conduit through which to put pressure on James. The frantic action of parliamentary haggling and diplomatic negotiation, as well as the danger of alienating his sole claim to power – the favour of the King – played havoc on Buckingham's delicate constitution. A distraught Buckingham took to his sick bed for much of the summer and autumn of 1624. The effect of his prolonged illness was in some sense ambivalent. His body's failure at a key moment in English political culture did not bode well for his claim to authority. However, James' anxiety over Buckingham's ill-health during the months of the breaking of the Spanish treaties proved crucial to winning the King over to an anti-Spanish position.

While Buckingham's failure to maintain his bodily health in the face of the draining political requirements of the 1624 parliament proved crucial in winning the sympathy of the King, it provided new avenues of attack to his opponents. The Spanish, seeking to discredit Buckingham, claimed that the invalid favourite was 'crased in his braine,' no doubt bringing to mind his history of ill-health and his mentally unstable brother John Villiers. (Chamberlain, 1939 Vol. II, 563) This attack followed weeks of Spanish attempts to isolate James from Buckingham by telling the King that the favourite's anti-Spanish policy was merely a ploy to win popular acclaim and usurp the authority of the monarch.

However, most anxiety about Buckingham's various illnesses came from those who were ultimately in favour of Buckingham's policies and eager to cast him in as positive a light as possible. Certainly Dudley Carleton, a newsletter writer whose family was attached to Buckingham's interests, agreed with Lockyer's assessment that the favourite's ill-health derived from the pressures put upon him by his enemies. In the summer of 1624 Carleton drew an explicit link between Buckingham's infirmity and the attempts by the Spanish to drive a wedge between the favourite and the King:

*My Lord of Buckingham is at Court, but still a weake man in body, all his friends and servants curse the Spanish Ambassador Inyosa whose goodly tales the king and the kings relation to my Lord caused, as it is thought, so great an apprehension, that it drew on this sicknes.* (SP 14/168/67)

Carleton's explanation of Buckingham's illness is telling. For Carleton the catalyst for Buckingham's infirmity lay outside his body. Brent similarly attributed Buckingham's 1618 'fit' to a fall down a stair. Often the stresses of state business were the culprit of Buckingham's ill-health. As Carleton and the Venetians were both active participants in Buckingham's political and diplomatic machinations they were no doubt eager to locate the blame for his illnesses outside of his body.

However, such explanations did not necessarily absolve Buckingham of any negative associations. While commentators could always point to factors outside of Buckingham's body as the immediate cause of his health problems, he remained unaccountably

vulnerable to the slightest threat to his body or psyche. Despite the blame laid upon the Spanish, the fact that Buckingham was, however temporarily, a 'weake man in body', could only damage his claim to manhood.

The clearest way this weakness of the body effected Buckingham's position was through his inability to participate in the decision-making process at court. The crucial role Buckingham's personal industry played in forming and executing policy meant that his temporary incapacities could often bring events to a sudden halt. Those within the navy were acutely aware that the constant need for Buckingham to direct affairs, was complicated, or made impossible, by time spent in his sick bed. As England prepared to enter into war with Spain, Lord Chichester complained that 'the Duke of Buckingham is sicke of a Feaver, but as it is thought past the worst, his sickness hath byne some hinderance towards the dispatch of the Fleete'. (SP 14/164/113)

Carleton expressed a similar mixture of anxiety and frustration over how policy appeared to be dictated by the ebb and flow of Buckingham's delicate health.

*My Lord of Buckingham cannot yet recouer his health, but hath had very shrewd fitts, of a feaver, since the writing of my last not withstanding that then we thought him within very little of being a sounde man againe. Thane there is some appearance of the yellow jander in him but howso ever it go with him for the nature of his disease and manner of his sickness will he bee well againe all business suffers extream delays.* (SP 14/164/147)

During a later political crisis in which Buckingham was similarly incapacitated by illness another political ally, Sackville Crowe, went further and drew an explicit connection between a sound body and the requirements of leadership. For Crowe, the appearance of hale virility was as important as its practical effects. 'I am sorrie to heare my Lord hath bene troubled with an ague; theise times and his occasions require a stronge bodie and a stronge spirit, God give him both'. (SP 16/26/114) Crowe's anxieties over the physical image Buckingham portrayed through his health echoed Carleton's frustration at Buckingham's inability to be a 'sounde man' with any consistency.

However, for all the anxieties of his friends and allies, and despite his chronic nervous episodes, Buckingham's frail constitution appears to have had little effect on his bodily claim to authority. His repeated seclusions certainly frustrated his political allies, and hampered his ability to implement policy at key moments. However, the failures of Buckingham's body were rarely expressed as grievances in the criticisms of Buckingham's competence in either parliament, or libel poetry – both arenas for a wide variety of criticisms of the favourite. The Spanish attempt to link Buckingham's illness to the insanity of his brother failed to dampen popular enthusiasm for Buckingham's vigorous anti-Spanish policies. Traditional anti-Spanish posturing trumped concerns of bodily manhood. Buckingham may also have been aided in this by the contradiction he presented as a beautiful body beset by disease. Just as D'Ewes was unable to explain how contemptible policy could emanate from such a visibly virtuous body, so too could Buckingham's beauty stand as an implicit defense against accusations of constitutional frailty.

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# Europe and Human Migration: 'It's Complicated'

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## **ABSTRACT**

This paper will explore the relationship that Europe has with human migration from an International Relations perspective. It will look at how the European Union (EU) finds a balance between allowing the right number of migrants in to improve the economy with the social and political structures that surround the 'issue' of human migration. I will look at how states have used human migration throughout history to gain an economic advantage and now find themselves with established routes that the EU finds difficult to control. I will conclude that the EU must create a structure that can balance economic gains with the admission of migrants.

## **KEYWORDS**

Migration, Post-Colonialism, European Union, Policy, North Africa, Securitization, Economy

## **INTRODUCTION**

Migration to Europe has been occurring since the Greeks moved between city states and Romans colonised the majority of Europe. In more recent times post-World War Two (WW2) migration changed the cultural make-up of Europe. By definition migration is the movement of people from one area to another and this is the definition that will be used in this paper. (When the terms migrant or migration is used it means; legal/illegal migrants, asylum seekers, human smuggling victims and human trafficking victims unless otherwise stated.)

In the 1950's states such as the UK, France and Germany used their colonial power to employ workers from abroad to work as cheap labour for governments wanting to rebuild their states after the war. These were called guest worker policies. In these years European states created family reunification policies and granted citizenship for the majority of guest workers. The effect of these policies can be seen in the very large groups of migrants of Turkish origin in Germany and Moroccan and Algerian origin in France. In some states, especially France, the admission of migrants helped population growth after WW2 and began to fill the demographic deficit that most European states had and still have today. However feelings began to change and only recently migration has been viewed as an 'issue'.

From the early to mid-1970s speeches from right wing politicians such as Enoch Powell's 1968 'Rivers of Blood' speech set the tone for societal negativity towards migration from outside of Europe. The change in policy reflected the economic downturn of the 1970s and the gates of 'Fortress Europe' began to close. Changes in internal European migration during the 1980s and the establishment of the Schengen free movement area led to the securitization of Europe's external borders. The early 1990s observed the biggest changes to the EU's migration policies. In 1992 the Maastricht Treaty was signed and founded the Justice and Home Affairs pillar (or sometimes called the Third Pillar) of the EU which adapted the EU from a purely economic area to a politicised area. Other changes on the global stage were also occurring at this time. The collapse of the Soviet Union created fear of mass migrations from the newly open borders. This along with all the other changes within the EU compounded the securitization and politicisation of migration.

Policies pre-1992 (I will use this term to refer to the period before the Maastricht Treaty) were guided upon economic considerations with colonial rulers executing the power to use labour from their empires. However unpopular migration was, politicians and leaders used migration as a means of growing their working populations. This however changed dramatically when the number of family reunifications began to increase along with a rising number of illegal immigration and

asylum seekers into the EU. Migration was now considered a threat to the cultural make-up of the EU, as well as an economic drain on resources. From 1992 onwards the EU has struggled to control migration from its southern borders and has attempted to create policies to curb migration from the North African region, but to what degree have any of these policies worked? And have any of them benefitted the peripheral states in North Africa? Or have they been created to sustain post-colonial power over previous empires?

In this paper I will explore how over the past 60 years Europe has created and maintained policies that have kept its southern peripheral neighbours as reserves of labour. This is where my research becomes unique and an original contribution to the literature surrounding this subject. From an International Relations background little has been researched surrounding the meta- and supra-structures of European institutions in context to migration. Another original element is the post-colonial theory that I will use to analyse the structures of the EU and the policies that they create. I will conclude that the EU needs to create or evolve a current initiative such as the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) in order to fairly control migration but also benefit from the positives that it can bring to a region such as economic benefits of a growing working age population.

### THE POST-COLONIAL QUESTION

Colonial powers in Europe are concentrated to a few super powers within the EU; these are the UK, France, Spain and Portugal. France and Spain have held enormous control over North Africa at many points in history. In modern terms North Africa is now free of colonial rule - or is it? Projects such as the ENP have been created by the EU to foster economic and political ties between themselves and their peripheral neighbours, both the east and the south of the region. The head of the ENP states that:

*Our Neighbourhood Policy provides us with a coherent approach that ensures that the whole of the EU is committed to deeper relations with all our neighbours. At the same time, it allows us to develop tailor-made relations with each country.* (Štefan Füle, Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy)

Another sticking point that many critics have is the phrase often coined by those involved in the ENP, 'political cooperation, on the basis of shared values and common interests'. Some have viewed this as a fair approach to relations with neighbours. However critics such as P. E. O'Neill in his study *The European Union and Migration: Security versus Identity* (2006) have been more judicious in their view of the ENP. 'The ENP seeks to overcome the shortcomings of traditional migration control policies by requiring migration-sending and transit countries to embrace the EU's norms and values' (O'Neill: 2006: 333). What O'Neill is concluding here is that the ENP is not a policy of cooperation but a policy of control. In my view you can take this one step further and say that it is a post-colonial form of control that serves the EU economically whilst benefitting the North African states very little.

Andrew Geddes in his book *Immigration and European Integration: Beyond Fortress Europe* 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (2008) states how EU policy has now become far more securitized than it had been pre-1992:

*These interdependencies have been intensified by the links between migration and asylum and other elements of the European project, particularly economic integration and the development of an internal security field.* (Geddes, 2008, page 186)

It is these interdependencies that create an environment that fosters post-colonial ideas.

Post-colonialism is a long established field within academia and is one little discussed within International Relations and more favoured by anthropology, cultural studies and literature. Post-colonialism discusses and analyses the residual effects that colonialism has had on the colonized but also the effects on the relations it has with its previous colonizer. Post-colonial theorists look to deconstruct the narrative of relations between states that have a colonial history and understand the inequalities that exist within it. Post-colonialism is an extremely far reaching theory and subject base; its writers and thinkers are varied but it allows the subject therefore to become more accessible and for it to be used in many different ways (See Said (2003), Spivak (1990) and Young (2003)).

If you use post-colonialism critically you can de-construct policies such as the ENP. Browning and Joenniemi in their article *Geostrategies of the European Neighbourhood Policy* (2008) share my idea that a policy such as the ENP is just another form of colonialism and a way of securitizing the southern border of the EU. 'While potential benefits of closer relations are noted, the regimes of the region also remain suspicious of the EU's rhetoric of democratization and transformation, which is seen as a threat to regime security and as just the latest example of European colonialism' (Browning and Joenniemi, 2008, page 540). In this paper however I do not want to simply attack the EU and claim that they are empire building once again because there is always more than one narrative when studying International Relations.

When critically assessing the ENP alongside policies of a similar nature one can question the motives of North African states about why they entertain the EU and allow them to use their populations as labour reserves.

### THE ECONOMIC QUESTION

The economies across both sides of the Mediterranean could not be starker. The EU is a developed capitalist economic free trade zone with a yearly budget of around €114 million (REF). In comparison the North African region is under developed and politically unstable. For states such as Morocco and Algeria the remittance payments that are sent from migrants that have settled within the EU make up a large portion of their GDP. 'Morocco received US\$3.3 billion in official remittances in 2001; Morocco is the developing world's fourth largest remittance receiver' (de Haas, 2006, page 2). With two regions that are, in economic terms so different, and in fact so reliant upon one another it is not difficult to see why a) the EU wishes to keep previous colonial relationships open and b) North Africa will turn a blind eye to the colonial nature and colonising features of policies like the ENP.

The economic benefits for North African states as stated above are remittances but also the receipt of aid from the EU. The aid given by the EU through the ENP is highly variable and dependent on how open each state is to the political and cultural changes that the EU requests if a state agrees to the funding. Overall the ENPI budget for 2007-13 is €12

billion, which goes towards projects in peripheral states. The money given often comes with provisos that a state needs to move towards political reforms, attempt to have more secure borders or other changes to political structures that make it more amicable to the EU. It is a demonstration of the EU's 'soft power' that it so often displayed in its migration policies, particularly since the creation of programs such as FRONTEX (European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union).

Demetrios G. Papademetriou is the head of the Migration Policy Institute (MPI) and has published many articles and books that analyse the relationship between migration and the perceived issues that it causes for both the EU and its member states on a national level. In his book *Europe and its Immigrants in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (2006) Papademetriou outlines the balancing game that the EU must perform to allow migrants into the EU but also have security and cultural structures in place to protect member states:

*Much of the growth in and maintenance of high levels of international migration is as much the result of market realities in advanced industrial societies as of 'them' (migrants) somehow crashing the North's gates and 'imposing' themselves on it. (Papademetriou, 2006, page XXIII)*

What the author is illustrating is that the EU uses migration for economic benefit in a more underhanded way than it would like portray. From a post-colonial perspective the EU uses its power (whether soft or not) to overtly securitize migration and continue the policy of re-bordering but between the lines seek a third option of encouraging migrants to fill demographic deficits and gaps in the low skilled labour market.

### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

In the future the EU needs to use structures and policies like the ENP, but fairly rather than use them as covers for empire building at the peripheries of Europe. Policies and strategies like the ENP can benefit both North Africa and the EU. The North/South divide of politics and economics needs to move away from colonial histories and develop into a fair exchange of goods and services that Western economies

share. The securitization of migration also needs to be slowed as many of the manifestations of soft power, such as FRONTEX, are in fact damaging relations between states. Other forms of soft power such as placing conditions of political and cultural changes on North African states also strains relations. Any prescriptions for the problems facing the two regions would have to be tentative because of the Arab Spring. Changes in the political makeup of the region could take the 'issue' of migration in the region one of two ways. Firstly an amicable balance could be achieved if the governmental structures are more open to the EU using their citizens as reserve of labour. Secondly the relations could break down completely if unfavourable governments come into power. Either way the complex relationship that the EU has with migration will not be getting simpler anytime soon.

## CONCLUSION

What papers like this contribute in terms of originality is the opening of discourses and debates that have never been opened within a variety of fields such as International Relations, Global Political Economy and Migrations Studies. The unique element of my research is to use the critical elements of post-colonialism to deconstruct and analyse the parts of the EU that have never been studied through a post-colonial lens, for example the ENP. Original contributions to literature and knowledge transcend the average to create a piece of research that pushes the boundaries of an academic area. What my research will do is push not only the boundaries of International Relations but also of Migration Studies. Migration will always be a complicated 'issue' that the EU has to manage and control. However the EU needs to move away from soft empire building and cut ties with the past to allow for a balance to be created between allowing the right number of migrants into the EU and sustaining the policy of 'Europeanization' across the region.

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# The importance of a holistic view of Gramsci's hegemony: hegemony as an 'analytical model'

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## ABSTRACT

The present research project investigates the current economic relations between the Balkan and the Greek trade and economic policy in the hegemonic bloc of transnationalization and regional integration of South Eastern Europe (SEE). It offers an evaluation of the Greek elites' hegemonic status in relation to SEE's transnational historic bloc and an analysis of the European ideology towards regional economic integration. The enthusiastic element of this research is the fact that it acknowledges the dialectical and historical materialism of 'molecular' transformation of social and political praxis – insights of the Italian Marxist, Antonio Gramsci (1891-1937). It is important, however, to allocate the Gramscian reflections within the disciplinary context of International Political Economy (IPE) and provide a new, more radical reading of this theoretical approach from what has been achieved by scholars such as Robert Cox, Stephen Gill, Adam David Morton and Andreas Bieler. This paper briefly underlines the importance of revisiting the 'Gramscian moment', which is the discovery of the narration of hegemony as a metaphysical event and its re-invention as a philosophy. This philosophy is a critique of the 'common sense' and a reflected form of unconscious social relations. As a result, the notion of hegemony is an 'analytical model', which is applicable to the functions of knowledge, as an established concept of a historical, anthropological, political and philosophical nexus.

## KEYWORDS

Gramsci, hegemony, philosophy of praxis, ideology, metaphysics.

Antonio Gramsci (1891 – 1937) could be considered one of the most influential Italian Marxist political philosophers of praxis (Thomas, 2009; Nemeth, 1980 and Mouffe, 1979). Gramsci led the Communist party in the year prior to the establishment of Mussolini's regime (1922 - 1923). He was arrested in 1926 despite his parliamentary immunity and after eight years of imprisonment his health had deteriorated. It was during his ill years that he gained conditional release. However, regardless of the treatment he received from various hospitals, he died three years later. His writings, the main body of which had been composed when he was detained, sought to analyse culture and its connection with the politico-economical elite. As a result he formed the notion of 'cultural hegemony' as a means of alienation of the proletariat and safeguarding the capitalist structure within a state. This post-Marxist approach places him with the eminent critical thinkers.

The political significance of Gramsci's work arose as early as 1937 – a few months after his death – when he became subject to numerous interpretations and

misinterpretations. This examination of Gramsci's work brought about his establishment as a distinguished figure of national Italian politics. One example is Palmiro Togliatti's interpretation of Gramsci as an anti-fascist and a Leninist theoretician (see Mouffe, 1979). Togliatti's ideal of Gramsci was closely interlinked with the required ideological re-examination of the Italian Communist Party (ICP) of historicism; undressing socio-political events within its particular Italian concept. In 1960s this topical understanding of Gramsci's 'historical materialism' by the ICP altered so as to incorporate a broader perspective of 'molecular' transformation of social and political praxis within the new threat of 'neo-capitalism'. This resulted in a redirection of Marxian intellectual focus, from the 'particular' to the 'general' characteristics of the capitalist mode of production. The Marxist thought had to be focused on the scientific approach. Gramsci's intellectual work, which up to that point was considered as representative of a historicist philosopher per se, was abandoned. The resurfacing of Gramsci's work became reality in 1967 by Norberto Bobbio in his lecture entitled 'Gramsci and the conception of civil society' (in Mouffe, 1979; also in Keen,

1988) as he was re-examining the ICP's interpretation of Gramsci.

Bobbio re-examines Gramsci and at the same time re-introduces him within the literature of political philosophers. Bobbio underlined the importance of the concept of civil society in Gramsci, which was equally important for Hegel and Marx, and the differences of the concept of hegemony as perceived by Lenin and Gramsci. Bobbio pointed out that in Gramsci there were two reverse conditions of the traditional Marxist. The first is the domination of the ideological superstructure (culture) over the economic structure (Mouffe, 1979, p. 33) and the second the pre-eminence of the civil society (consensus) over the political society (force) (Mouffe, 1979, p. 44). However, this 'reverse condition' does not exclude Gramsci from Marx, but on the contrary proves that he is an honest Marxist as he accepts the division of superstructure and structure, while at the same time completing Marx's approach (see Todd, 1974, p. 150). For Bobbio, Gramsci moved away from Marx's economic determinism and Lenin's authoritarianism. However, Bobbio's re-establishment of Gramsci's theses as part of the idealistic culture of Hegel and Croce, reduced the 'Gramscian moment' as a traditional political philosophical instant, which was historically bound into the topical reality of 1920's Italy (Mouffe, 1979, p. 4). The reality of the situation was very different; Gramsci is not a speculative philosopher and his visions on politics move across the boundaries of Italy. Gramsci discovered the narration of hegemony as a metaphysical event and its re-invention as a philosophy of praxis: he captured the historical vitality of economic structure as a process of social relations' activity (Thomas, 2009, p. 30). Accordingly, the nature of the Marxian bourgeoisie in itself translates as a metaphysical event. Gramsci was the first Marxist who from his perspective perceived such a philosophical speculation as a far-reaching visualization of social organization. This philosophy is a critique of the 'common sense' – as was represented by Croce's critique of Marx's historicism – and a reflected form of unconscious social relations. As a result, the notion of hegemony is an 'analytical model', which is applicable to the functions of knowledge, as an established concept of a historical, anthropological, political and philosophical nexus.

Gramsci himself implemented within his theory the essentiality of knowing thyself 'as a product of the historical process to date which has deposited in you an infinity of traces' (Gramsci, 1971, p. 324). This 'infinity of traces' therefore led to the formation of Gramsci's neo-Marxian approach. Italy in fact could be considered as a case-study for Gramsci of superstructures, that have been established via conflict and finally unified (risorgimento). As a result an equilibrium 'transformation' (trasformismo) of the party risorgimento led to a 'centrist consensus'. This change within the political structure of the Italian elite and its generated 'democracy' required an explicit mode of analysis which derived from an amalgamation of Marxian scientific approach and Croce's non-essentialism (Golding, 1992, p. 130). Gramsci added into his critique his rich experience gained as a leftist activist, which led him through events of his life, demonstrating that his ideas cannot be disconnected from his political actions (see McNally, 2009).

Gramsci's notion of culture became the means to perceive the way that the ruling elites gain authority or fail to achieve it. Culture is a superstructure which is related with Marx's 'economic base'. This relationship of the 'superstructure' and the 'economic base' is reciprocal and a driving force, an instrument of augmentation and change. It is within this relationship that civil society has an important conciliatory purpose; as a result, any conservative and reconstructional policies, in effect, seek to divert perception and day-to-day life in favour of the ruling elite (Gramsci, 1971, pp. 265-6). The only possible way for a society to change requires a long period of negotiation (equilibrium) within all the spheres of societal, political and cultural realms. It is a painful task especially as all civil policies are situated within a nation that necessitates full subordination, which Gramsci understands as the 'national-popular'. (Gramsci, 1971, p. 421) This notion of 'national-popular' is subject to extensive criticism by Gramsci's contemporaries; however, if we closely examine the context in which Gramsci used it, we will be able to visualise it as a kind of negotiation of social classes unification (historic bloc) in between the national and popular desires in which the intellectuals play a mediate role (Gramsci, 1971, pp. 204-5).

It is therefore clear, according to Gramsci, that the responsibility of intellectuals within the historic bloc is to act as the 'dominant group's "deputies" exercising the subaltern functions of social hegemony and political government' (Gramsci, 1971, p. 12; see also Vacca, 1977). I will need to further stress that within the Marxian tradition the critique and criticism concerning intellectuals and their function in civil and political society was common and everlasting. The notion that intellectuals are 'instruments' of 'domination' and 'alienation' was prominent in the thought of Marx, as well as for Marcuse and Sartre (see Gupta, 2000; and Boggs, 1993). Gramsci further stressed the importance of giving quantitative form and a function or power of the cultural representation of morals, ideologies, scientific and philosophical ethics that are expatiated within the 'condensation' of social relations (Poulanzas, 2000, p. 128). Gramsci offered a deconstruction of the intellectuals by recognizing two distinct forms: the 'traditional' and the 'organic' intellectual. (Gramsci, 1971, p. 9) Each of these forms assisted Gramsci to draw his attention to different areas of intellectual creation (both cultural and scientific) and social negotiation. Additionally, these notions helped Gramsci to further analyse the concept of 'production of knowledge' within its historical framework and how it is capable to flexibly 'negotiate' with the civic society. Consequently, it generates a variety of ideas which then are transmitted on a given historical timeframe or cultural era. Gramsci asserted that the historic bloc cannot be fixed or unaltered (Jones, 2006).

I would like to stress the importance of knowledge production and accumulation (as the act of education) in our post-modern, neo-liberal, neo-corporatist society. It is visible, in the current crisis, to see the marks of a paradigm shift which is characterized by a transition to an economy of knowledge based on the accumulation of perceived realities of the *bürgerliche Gesellschaft* (bourgeoisie society). Within the perspective of bourgeoisie and proletariat classes, the polarization between the knowledgeable elite and the ignorant subordinate social classes is evident - a polarization charged by economic dependency and social negotiation within a liberal global hegemony. It is of particular importance to no longer consider the educational institutions - and the knowledge that they accumulate - as part of a broader program of social policy, but be regarded as a

fundamental factor for global economic expansion and 'negotiation' of social values globally. Consequently, liberal educational processes based on a positivistic account of universal 'laws' and 'truth' negotiates all intellectual challenges and forces them into submission. Gramsci's critique of the educational institutions is paramount to critically evaluate the bourgeoisie society's notion of educational policy and its educational project (Gramsci, 1971, p. 8). The above is a sincere statement of a philosopher of the Western revolution of philosophical praxis, that demonstrates clearly the need for rejecting the forms of 'dominant' knowledge.

Gramsci understood the hegemonic social order educational system as the praxis of civil values' 'negotiation' (equilibrium) which establishes a flexible response and emulates differences between social and political groups (Gramsci, 1971, p. 216). Thus education, the act of knowledge transmission, should be understood as a political act. Further, the function of equilibrium in the international sphere can be satisfactorily agile, responsive towards new counter-hegemonic conditions derived from the shifting desires of the social classes in order for the hegemonic elite to sustain its authority. The provided equilibrium of the global elite's educational project seeks the 'transformation' (*trasformismo*) of the intellectual response towards its actions, by integrating them within a liberal socio-political stratum of hegemonic superstructures - the mass accumulation of knowledge from one social group or class that is capable to build institutions and ideologies.

Education - as formed via the liberal educational systems - functions as a mechanism through which the universal 'laws' and 'truth' of the dominant hegemony are articulated (Farrands and Worth, 2005, p. 51). Educational institutions, as a result, have been utilized to process the ideology that has been developed by the ruling elite. Therefore, educational systems are political institutions, where knowledge functions 'as an effect of power' (Popkewitz, 2000, p. 5); as a result, they have equal features with international organizations and supranational political unions within a historic bloc. They have as a function the exemplification of ruling elite's political constitution, which simplifies the progress of its expansion; they are constantly re-producing or re-formulating as products of the hegemonic order themselves; they are sanctioning and

authorizing the 'negotiated' values of the knowledgeable 'elite'; they emulate counter-hegemonic intellectual resistance; and 'transforming' the intellectual critic of counter-hegemonies by incorporating them within the hegemonic superstructures (Cox, 1983, p. 172).

The adjustment to the requirements of a present and future-oriented educational process that 'transforms', via the function of equilibrium, social mobility and productivity, reassures the production of 'dominant' knowledge that has extensive social effects: it ensures the creation of economic and social 'negotiation' between the ruling elite and the civil society by producing a historic bloc of national-popular negotiation. Paradoxically, the new hegemonic educational project promises access to employment, which is guaranteed even for the handicapped segments of society, the prevention of discrimination and inequality, multicultural education, more and better jobs in a dynamic and competitive economy, and to strengthen the social cohesion. However, the results of this project seems to generate a complex, rigid global educational system responsible for early decisions that often lead to high failure, dropout and lack of motivation, high graduate unemployment, and lower levels of performance of human productivity, intellectual capacities and class alienation. Education is an act of re-negotiating the 'frontier' of the civil society and reforming it as national-popular.

The national-popular, which could represent the condensation of social relations via negotiation, brought forward a new solution to Marxists' theorists: the ability to integrate the nation as a historical and social reality. Gramsci, thus, unified the two conflicting couples, the 'politics, class and state' with 'people, nation and state' (Mouffe, 1979, p. 9). This non-revisionist approach assisted Gramsci to visualize capitalism as a reality which does not cause the disappearance of social classes. Further, he addressed the issue of working class's transition to socialism in non-Marxist terms. The important theoretical challenge was to represent the relationship between the class and nation and the shape the bourgeoisie revolution will take: '[...] the supremacy of a social group manifests itself in two ways, as "domination" and as "intellectual and moral leadership". A social group dominates antagonistic groups, which tends to "liquidate", or subjugate [...]' (Gramsci, 1971, p. 57).

Gramsci's thought is based, as a result, in the formulation of the concept of hegemony.

Gramsci breached the main Marxian ideological approach of 'domination', and he insisted on using the new critical term, hegemony (Jones, 2006, p. 45). Gramsci's notion of hegemony examined the states as 'historical unit[s] of the ruling classes' (Gramsci, 1971, p. 52) and the internationalization of the ruling elite. Accordingly, there are three main spheres of hegemonic activity: a) the social relations of production which cover the circulation and use of knowledge as origin of material manufacture, b) the historical construction of a state's form and c) the world order which not only represents cases of stability or conflict but also the internationalisation of the hegemonic ruling class. It is critical because it acknowledges the active role of subordinate individuals within the function of power. If we need to elucidate the distinction between 'domination' and hegemony, I may argue that the notion of hegemony integrates an extensive moral and intellectual control which manages the lives as well as the minds and perceptions of subordinate social classes within the superstructure's policies of the historic bloc. This is a holistic view of the Marxian notion of 'domination' achieved by the bourgeois class (or, rather, the elite class), however, we may recognize that within the perception of hegemony, the bourgeoisie may not be represented in class terms. Hegemony may be viewed as an idiosyncratically contemporary political practice that intends to re-arrange individuals into social elements; as the bourgeois hegemony has negotiated the 'frontier' between civil society and political society, concurrently it forms a coalesce of 'civil' and 'political' direzione. This notion explains that the social relation of negotiation and transformation through which the elite class controls and enforces its rule completes the evolution from an economic deterministic approach to an accurately signified hegemony. Thus, it effectively undresses its own particular interests (corporate private financial market interests) as legitimate desires for the culture as a whole.

As a result the phenomenon of the 'frontier' should be present within the conceptualisation of the hegemony – it is then that the 'war on position' is exposed as a significant element of hegemony's character. For that reason Gramsci described hegemony with the use of divisions in between historical moments within the

hegemony's formation. Gramsci uses separately therefore the notions of coercion and consent, 'limited' and 'expansive' hegemony (Jones, 2006, p. 53) to present how these can construct a degree of political and cultural authority. It is therefore a condition of continual negotiation and re-negotiation that denotes a procedure of power's formation; as such, it is the unchanged custody of authority by a particular social group.

Gramsci, consequently, offered an evolutionary perspective of the theory of the *bürgerliche Gesellschaft* as a metaphysical event, which is 'produced by bourgeois hegemony's constitution of the political, institutionalised in a distinct political society and reinforced by its official political philosophies, to a theory of proletarian hegemonic practice as a (potential) 'philosophical fact', in so far as it aims to unite philosophy and politics, thought and action, in a self-regulated social form' (Thomas, 2009, p. 35).

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# Defining Contribution of Effective Project Management: 4Es The Necessary Tool

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## ABSTRACT

This paper proposes a conceptual model '4Es' (Effective, Economic, Efficient, Ethics) as the necessary tool for performance control and assessment within construction project management. This is necessary because the existing so-called iron triangle or project constraints (time, cost and quality) seem insufficient.

The aim of every client is to have the right quality at its relative cost and within a specific period, which from an economist's perspective is termed 'value for money' (VfM). Achieving VfM is not necessarily managing time, cost and quality (TCQ) because it allows certain trade-offs. Currently project management practice focuses on TCQ thus leading to heavy criticism of its suboptimal performance. A considerable amount of literature indicates that the problem of suboptimal performance is due to ineffective project management.

This study reviews, evaluates and discusses the defining contribution of effective project management through a detailed literature review. It also draws on intellectual discussion and analysis to propose the 4Es model as the necessary tool to achieve client/project objectives and as performance indicators. The 4Es model is essential to the competitiveness and sustainability of every industry today. The model is also discussed as a necessary performance indicator.

## KEYWORDS

Project Management, Construction, Project, 4Es

## INTRODUCTION

A construction project is a production of unique artefacts, normally using multiple-disciplines, generally related to Architecture, Engineering and Building. Examples include: roads, bridges, dams, railways and building works (new refurbishments and conversion). Traditionally, construction projects were led and managed by Architects and Engineers. However, due to the increased demand on projects and their complexities, it is supposedly difficult for these professionals to combine their roles and the total management of projects. Thus, leading to the adaptation of the current form of project management into the construction industry 30 to 40 years ago (CIOB 2002).

Despite its fairly long history, the management of construction projects has continuously been described as failing in terms of its cost overruns, delays and suboptimal performance (Latham, 1994; Egan, 1998; Sambasivan and Soon, 2007; Wolstenholme, 2009; Koskela 1992). Hartman and Ashrafi (2004) established

that approximately 50% of construction projects exceed their original budgets, run late or fail to meet their client objectives. Hubbard (1990), among other researchers, claims these problems are due to lack of effective project management because project management is significant to project success. Sweis et al (2008) ascertained that there are major failings in the traditional approaches to project delivery. Therefore, this paper proposes the 4Es model for project management and performance assessment. This model is the defining contribution of effective project management, and benefits from the quality, cost and time savings, as well as integration of the project team.

These benefits in-turn enhance the achievement of other project objectives and, most importantly, achieve sustainable development.

This paper is divided into four sections. The first section provides a literature review of project management; the second outlines the methodology; the third discusses the proposal of 4Es; and the fourth section is the conclusion.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Kozak-Holland (2011) claims the project management concept can be traced back for many centuries, yet the current form was adapted into construction industry 30 to 40 years ago (CIOB 2002). According to Maylor (2010), the widespread acceptance of project management concepts is due to the publication of Body of Knowledge (BoK) mainly by the Project Management Institute (PMI - the world largest project management professional association) and the Association for Project Management (APM- the largest in the UK). These institutions have significantly influenced many industries, including the construction industry, through the standardisation of project management procedures. Project management is defined as:

- *the planning, organisation, monitoring and control of all aspects of a project and the motivation of all involve achieving the project objectives safely and within agreed time, cost and performance criteria. The project manager is the single point of responsibility for achieving this* (APM 2006).
- *the application of knowledge, skills, tools and techniques to project activities to meet project requirements* (PMI BoK, 2004).

While, 'a project is a temporary endeavour, having a defined beginning and end undertaken to meet unique goals and objectives usually to bring about beneficial change or added value' (PMI BoK, 2004).

These two definitions seem different from one another, but, they have time and cost as common themes and these themes relate to quality and performance. Time, Cost and Quality are claimed to be the core objectives of a construction client (Bowen et al 2000). This is normally referred to as the iron triangle (figure 1). Many researchers of project management advocate that a project's measures of success are Time, Cost and Quality (Wateridge, 1995). Other researchers adopt the APM BoK's project objectives of time, cost and performance (see figure 2). Thus, the benchmark of success and failure factors is centred on Time, Cost and Quality. PMI also

established scope, cost and schedule as the project constraints used to manage projects (see figure 3). Wateridge (1995) concluded that, only two of many criteria are necessary for judging the success of projects (i.e., time and cost). Primarily, project management concentrates on time and cost thus neglecting the relative importance of quality. Reiss (1995, 2007) responded that managing projects is said to be like juggling three balls of time, cost and quality. This implied the conventional model for project management allows trade-offs between time, cost and quality.

Wit (1988) illustrates the distinction between project success and project management success; notwithstanding, he ascertained that good project management is key to project success. He concluded that planning is the top priority for achieving a successful construction project, whilst frequently used criteria for project success were budget performance (Cost), scheduling performance (Time) and client satisfaction (Quality). This view has been contended by Atkinson (1999) who argues that the current project management process that focuses on managing time, cost and quality to determine the success of a project is obsolete. Belassi and Tukel (1996) argue that many researchers concentrate on the critical failures rather than project success. Yet, literature is scant on delivery management and performance assessment. Herbsman and Williams (1991) established that there are major failings with these traditional approaches of project delivery. Unsurprisingly, Atkinson (1999) questioned why, if both factors and criteria of success were deemed known, are projects continuously described as failing?

Hartman and Ashrafi (2004) suggested that approximately 50% of construction projects exceed their original budgets, run late or fail to meet their client objectives. They established that poor project planning is the key cause of project failure. Ballard and Howell (2003) also argue that less than 50% of weekly planned work is realised at the end of the week, which is also attributed to lack of planning. Other studies concluded with the fragmented nature of the industry, lack of co-ordination and communication between parties, and the informal and unstructured learning process (Latham, 1994, Egan, 1998). Whilst other studies suggested it is due to ineffective management of the projects since it is based on the conventional TCQ model (Ballard and Howell 2003, Koskela and Howell 2002, Atkinson 1999).



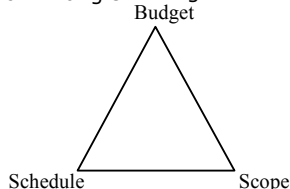
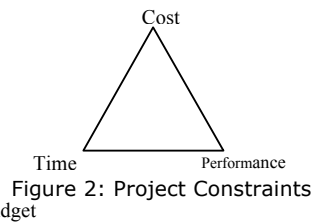
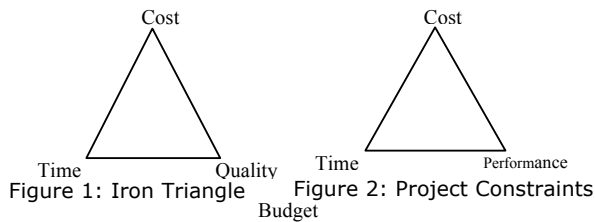


Figure 3: Project Management triangle

It is suggested that project management as practiced, however advanced it may be, is ineffective in the managing of projects since it is based on the conventional model.

## METHODOLOGY

This paper uses a critical literature review and intellectual discussion to introduce a new conceptual model. The study reviews, discusses and evaluates literature to introduce the 4Es model as a defining contribution of effective project management. It explores academic and technical journals, technical reports, articles, conference proceedings, text books, alongside government and professional guidelines in the context of project management. To maintain the efficiency and effectiveness of the review and discussion, both online and manual searches were undertaken.

## DISCUSSION

There is consensus in literature that project/client objectives are to complete the project on time, on budget and to quality or performance specification. In other industries and from an economists' stance, the main objective of any client is to have Value for Money (VfM) for services or purchases. The UK Government white paper to the Councils claims that the desire for VfM is a daily reality in all our lives because we are constantly having to choose items or services to buy.

Early 20th century economists discussed the importance of having value in return for money paid for products or services. Pigou (1917) defined VfM as 'the exchange of value of a unit of money (legal tender)'. The initial concept of VfM from an economist's perspective was comparing cost to quality; that is, finding a balance between cost and quality. In other

contexts VfM has also been described as the balance between cost and benefits (Pollock et al 2002, Pearson 2005). VfM is about providing services that are of the right quality level and cost that reflects the needs and priorities of customers as well as the wider community. The management of this VfM concept is often referred to as 3Es (Economy, Efficiency and Effectiveness). This 3Es (VfM) concept is used in all UK government departments as part of the procurement and management of processes (Communities and Local Government, 2007; HMSO, 2006). It is therefore suggested that, to meet a client and country's main objective of VfM, there must be an application of 3Es (VfM) from an economist stance. In addition, it is the determinate of the success of the procurement and management of projects, and the UK Government suggested it is the new National Performance Indicator (HMSO 2005). Nevertheless, project management has failed to adapt this concept; rather it depends on the conventional model of TCQ.

Undeniably, VfM is about obtaining the maximum benefit with the resources available, which is about achieving the right local balance between economy, efficiency and effectiveness. This 3Es concept addresses the delivery of projects, services or procurements in the context of project management, but lacks the allowance for managing or controlling people and the environment. Turner (2009) indicated the importance of people in project management; yet, the current concept of achieving VfM undermines the significance of people and the environment. These 3Es factors of achieving VfM are carried out by people either using their skills and other technologies. Therefore, in order to adapt this model into project management to achieve clients' objectives, it is essential to allow for the management of people and environment.

This study therefore introduces the fourth 'E' – the Ethical factor. Ethics address the relationships between people by providing rules of conduct that are generally agreed to govern the good behaviour of contemporaries (Kibert, 2008). In essence, ethics governs people's behaviour and their environmental impact. The 4Es (Economic, Efficiency, Effectiveness and Ethics) is the necessary tool, and therefore effective project management is vital to project success.

#### **4ES AND EFFECTIVE PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

The 4Es are separate, yet overlapping factors, as briefly discussed below.

##### ***Economic***

The word 'economy' originated from the French word *économie*, or via Greek *oikonomia* meaning 'household management' (Oxford Dictionary). This literally means making good use of the available resources in a household [project] to reduce costs. Economics is the ratio of the cost and input required for the project, which will benefit the organisation and society in general. Projects are to be project-managed for the financial growth of the organisation, and for profitability and social responsibilities. This is vital, since the construction industry represents about 8% and 10% GDP in the USA and European economies respectively (Burgan and Sansom 2006, Kibert 2008). The construction industry is Europe's largest industrial employer and it is also important to the quality of life in terms of housing, workplace, utilities and infrastructure (Burgan and Sansom 2006). Thus, minimising cost of production is vital to the nation and the communities affected by the projects, as well as the employers. Therefore, effective project management is intrinsic to the construction industry and is a major contributor to every economy.

##### ***Efficiency***

Efficiency is the ratio of the output and resources at a given period. Thus, projects must be efficiently managed so that the required quality is achieved at a given period. Efficient project management will improve the quality delivery of the project and the effective use of resources. This will consider the appropriateness of design, planning and use of resources to achieve the optimum value. Salvatierra-Garrido and Pasquire (2011) suggest that value should be expanded to look at the global picture, considering specifically the close relationship between construction output and society in general. Thus, effective project management will ensure efficient projects are delivered to both client and society.

##### ***Effectiveness***

The Oxford English Dictionary defines 'effective' as 'successful in producing a desired or intended result'. Accordingly, Effectiveness is the ratio of input (time, cost, resources, information, and constraints) and output. UK improvement networks suggest effectiveness is

the measure of the impact to be achieved, which can be assessed either by qualitative or quantitative methods. All projects should be managed effectively through efficient use of resources and time management to achieve the required objectives. Effective project management will decrease or eliminate the excessive delays and cost overruns that are associated with construction projects. Effective project management is proportionate to the success of the project.

##### ***Ethics***

The dictionary definition of 'ethics' is 'a system of accepted beliefs which control behaviours'. Projects should be managed so that individuals are ethically responsible and resources are ethically chosen so as to have a minimum impact on the environment and society. Project management encompasses people management, and these people may come from different cultures, thus there should be principles of right conduct to govern the project. Kibert (2008) argues ethics must be broadened to address a wide range of concerns that are not usually a basis for consideration. He concluded that sustainable development requires a more extensive set of ethical principles. Hence, ethical project management achieves a balance between environment and society.

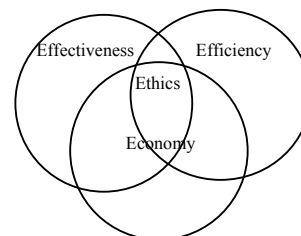


Figure 4: Overlapping representation of

Figure 4 illustrates that Ethics is the centre of the other 3Es, thus controlling the other factors. The use of 4Es will achieve TCQ (without trade-off), VfM and sustainable construction as opposed to the existing concepts discussed earlier.

#### **CONCLUSION**

This study discusses the defining contributions of effective project management and proposes the 4Es model as a new management and performance assessment model. This is timely since the existing models are insufficient and allow trade-offs. Effective project management must incorporate the 4Es at all levels within a project. The 4Es model takes into consideration

Time, Cost, Quality, Environmental impact and Resources by balancing these factors to generate optimal value. This also ensures the achievement of sustainable development as we are currently in a time of increasingly rapid environmental deterioration. Population increase and endeavours for economic growth means that sustainability is one of the most important issues currently facing the construction industry in particular and the world at large. As construction is one of the most resource-intensive industries in the world, effective project management (4Es) is the key to achieving sustainable societies and developments. The 4Es model is proposed to act as a new performance indicator in project management and has the potential to be adopted into other industries. This study contributes to project management knowledge by proposing a new project management model and performance indicator model to enhance the current practice and aid the achievement of sustainable development.

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# The Art of Conversation: Uncovering Artistic Inspiration

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## ABSTRACT

This paper explores definitions for artistic Inspiration and its role within an academic research context. A position is made, that Inspiration can be located by application of an artistic practice and through the process of dialogical mapping and reciting. To discuss this, the paper makes reference to the practice based research enquiry currently being read at Nottingham Trent University by Rhiannon Slade. The paper provides snippets of transcripts collected during Slade's research as she investigates the performativity of human scar stories, by establishing connections between the moment of a scar's creation (actuality) and the recollection (expression) of its story. Fragments of transcripts are woven into the paper to provide clear examples of how Inspiration has been understood and applied to Slade's research. Furthermore, the paper considers artistic Inspiration as a critical process for practice based research. The paper, whilst acknowledging the opportunities often experienced when engaging in an artistic practice, also highlights the potential challenges of *Inspiration-led-research*. The paper closes by asking its reader to acknowledge the complexities and intricacies that are often overlooked when consideration is first made to the use of artistic Inspiration. However, Inspiration is considered as a critical and viable technique in the formulation of a research methodology, and in turn, one's artistic practice.

## KEYWORDS

Artistic Practice, Inspiration, Conversation as Art, Dialogical Methodology, Community, Scar stories.

## INTRODUCTION

This paper discusses how Inspiration has been used to assist in the generation of knowledge for the research enquiry into *The Art of Conversation*. As a study, it defines Inspiration as an active agent in the form of 'a person or work of art that moves the intellect or emotions or prompts action or invention. Something, such as a sudden creative act or idea that is inspired' (Dzuliashvili, 2012). Inspiration is considered as a critical component for this art practice research enquiry. The agent (Inspiration) is located through conversations between artist and participant<sup>1</sup> to aid the generation of knowledge about the performativity of human flesh narratives by application of an artistic Interventionalist methodology. As such, the agent is reliant on an active agency identified as the dialogical Intervention<sup>2</sup> between artist

and participant which then functions as a device to activate Inspiration (the agent) into fruition.

Philosopher Eliphaz Levis described Inspiration as a technique and as an innately creative process. He likened it to the invoking or acts of conjuring. However, consideration is made in this paper to Inspiration as a critical and academically viable component for an artistic based research enquiry.

Theatre practitioner Stanislavski designed a method for the artisan so that 'one can acquire a technique, which consciously will lead them to Inspiration' (Dzuliashvili, 2012). As a technique it allows an individual to be able to access their inner creativity so Inspiration can occur. This paper acknowledges this scholarly technique that provides a researcher with the skills to identify when a sudden creative act has been encountered during the conduction of a research enquiry.

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<sup>1</sup> A member of the public who volunteer(s) willingly and grants full permission to share their scar story with the artist/researcher.

<sup>2</sup> The construction (setting the scene) of conversation art. It refers to the methodology

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that the artist conducts to shape and conduct the interventions on dialogue.

Stanislavski's rigorous and reflexive methodology requires the artisan to ask 'what if?' to maintain an inner monologue and awareness of mind and body. In order to maintain an openness for a potential discovery in any given circumstance (Benedetti, 1998). However, Stanislavski himself cautioned the artisan to '...be the master of his own Inspiration and must know how to call it forth... This is the chief secret of our art' (Dzuliashvili, 2012). As such, it is rightly acknowledged as a skill to be mastered by each individual researcher and implemented appropriately.

### INSPIRATION THROUGH DIALOGUE

During an Intervention<sup>3</sup> the participant associated their scar with their experience of daily life. Lines 10 to 15 (Slade, 2011).

- 1) G: The scars<sup>↑</sup> don't go away though<sup>↓</sup>
- 2) do they, (0.5) they are reminders of
- 3) the event.
- 4) R: Ye:::r.
- 5) R: I think healing comes from a
- 6) different place?, I me:a::n <they
- 7) are probably> better to have than
- 8) not have=
- 9) (( G looks down at her leg))
- 10) G: =I mean<sup>↑</sup>hh. the scars just<sup>↑</sup>
- 11) kinda m::e no::w, an:d ac::t::ually<<sup>↓</sup>
- 12) I don't even think about it> until
- 13) someone like<sup>↓</sup> you Rhiannon say::s
- 14) 'do yo:u have a scar?'<sup>↑</sup>(0.5) and
- 15) then I'm like.(0.4) 'Oh yer,<sup>↑</sup>(0.4)

<sup>3</sup> The extracts provided in this paper are taken from Dialogical Interventions carried out by Slade. They have been transcribed through application of Gail Jefferson's conversation analysis method (in Hepburn, 2012).

16) I've got one of them. I::ve got a

17) story to t:e::ll'.<sup>↑</sup>

The revelation that 'I've got a story to tell' (lines 16-17) and 'the scar's just kinda me now' (lines 10-11) occurred during the narration and mapping of their story to the researcher. Gillespie (in Rose, 2012, p279) considers ethnographic data as 'access and understanding the texture of everyday life.' This textual conceptualisation of dialogue also includes perception, shared assumptions, activities and an intuitive role for a researcher conducting interviews, not just a linguistic and interpretive role. Gillespie highlights the importance of addressing the 'full sociological complexity' (Rose, 2012, p279) which this paper suggests is driven in part through the researcher's sense of insight/Inspiration to facilitate Interventionalist dialogue. The facilitation of a Dialogical Interventionist technique<sup>4</sup> allowed the participant the opportunity to reflect on their own scar and story.

The knowledge that a researcher can gain from a moment of Inspiration through conversation is a viable and plausible method for knowledge production. Smith identified knowledge accrued as 'a shock of recognition that marks a key step in the way practice led research find their way through the on-going state of emergence which characterises their research studies' (Smith, 2009, p219).

Appropriate identification and use of Inspiration within a research context is attributed to the ability of a researcher to be self-reflexive and successfully negotiate the materialisation of Inspiration. As a guide, Sullivan in Smith (2009) suggested that the material output of Inspiration can be identified as a concept, theme, idea, or image. The evidencing of Inspiration as a material output for research now becomes recognised as a measurable outcome.

<sup>4</sup> The artistic practice carried out to engage a participant in conversation about their scar and the story of its creation through an Intervention.



**Figure 1: Artists in Conversation with Participant.**

### UNCOVERING ARTISTIC INSPIRATION

During an Intervention a participant recalled their scar story, narrating its creation and details about the day leading up to the moment of accident (Slade, 2011).

- 1) G: 'You asked me about the
- 2) ambulance driver ↑hh.(0.4) I':m
- 3) aware that I have remembered his
- 4) profile [for a]=
- 5) R: [yer!]
- 6) =long ↓time he was a
- 7) backgr:ou::nd person <now
- 8) slightly foreground>=
- 9) R: [ri::g::ht!!]
- 10) =Because:e of mcht the ↑way our
- 11) con:ver::sation has unfolded.↓
- 12) (.)

Whilst conversation occurred, the participant revealed that they experienced a moment of 'shock' and were inspired to inform the artist that they had recalled a new piece of information regarding their scar story. Les Back described Inspiration as 'an unexpected visitor' (Back, 2007, p. 174) as witnessed and documented within this encounter between researcher and participant.

This was identified as a key moment where a 'shock of recognition' a term coined by Smith (Smith, 2009, p219) was encountered by the participant. This led to a moment of realisation by the researcher, that key information was being recalled to define their story. This provided the researcher with new insights into the participants scar story through facilitated dialogue. This insight, or Inspiration, was significant for both participant and researcher. In this case, Inspiration led to Inspiration. The dissemination and application of this insight

was then used for the creation of semi-constructed interview questions (see Line 6) for use in future interventions. The unexpected visitor, in this instance, was the discovery of new knowledge for both participant and researcher.

Appropriate application of Inspiration in research is critical, and this is identified by Smith and Dean who reference Inspiration for its outputs and considers them as manifesting in the following forms as 'a material, which can be a concept, feeling, space, texture, rhythm, lift or sound' (Back, 2007, p85). Appropriate evidencing has to be considered for each particular moment of Inspiration. There is no generic tool or application method applicable for Inspiration. As such, it is a technique which has to be developed by the individual researcher and applied appropriately for each instance it is experienced.

As an intrinsic and autobiographical research project it addresses how conversations happen and how Inspirational qualities can be discovered through the act of talking. This can become evident through the production of conversation art generated by research. The identification of an appropriate method for application of Inspiration has led to the incorporation of Kolb's learning cycle (Kolb, 1984). Kolb developed a learning cycle which would facilitate a researcher with a tool kit that incorporates the use of auto-biographical data. Kolb identified four key moments.

- Reflective Observation & Participation
- Active Experimentation
- Abstract Conceptualisation
- Concrete Experience

Within each stage of the method, Inspiration can occur and can be clearly identified and rigorously applied, reviewed and analysed. The stages are appropriate and by inclusion of Kolb's learning cycle within the methodology it recognises the fluidity and reflexivity required in this research enquiry. It also incorporates a sense of flux and cascading for learning which is essential in practice based research enquiries that engage with self and others so the 'unexpected visitor' (Inspiration), as Back proposed, can arrive (Back, 2007, p. 174).

There is also a parallel conversation that occurs. It is one that happens within the researchers mind, it is an inner conversation

which is attempting to understand, interpret and be reflexive which is crucial for continuation of conversation with the participant. This process Colapietro describes as a process which allows 'the self to distance itself from those structures crucial for the ongoing social interactions' (in Archer, 2010, p. 41).

The postmodern Western culture depicted by Jenks implies that 'Looking, seeing and knowing have become perilously intertwined' (in Rose, 2012, p. 3) and that distinctions as to what is real and unreal are blurred and interpretation of what is seen and what is understood is perceived as central to knowledge building. Following this line of thought, In the case of Inspiration it can then be considered that Inspiration is located and cited by what is seen and what is said.

The authoring of our experiences, insights or moments of Inspiration can be aligned to a Bakhtian philosophy which calls for the authoring of our world through 'our aesthetical attitude, values and perception's...' (Haynes, 1995, p. 5). Interpretation is essential to the dissemination of moments of Inspiration within a research context. Dissemination through reflexivity is an approach which Haseman and Mafe describe where-by the artist 'acts upon the required research material (Inspiration) to generate new material which immediately acts back upon the practitioner who is in turn stimulated to make a subsequent response' (Smith, 2009, p. 219). It should be acknowledged that recognition of when Inspiration has occurred is an acquired skill which when successfully applied within an academic research context can aid, quantify, moderate, critically engage, examine, reflect and apply insight found from Inspiration.

So how do we define Inspiration? How do we know when we have been inspired? How is this acknowledged within an academic context as a research tool? C. Wright Mills proposed a systematic approach to Inspiration led research where one needs to 'keep your inner world awake' (Back, 2007, p. 174); Implying a reliance on the researchers awareness of self and their responsibility to maintain this alertness as a researcher. This research enquiry is critically engaged with the self-reflexive researcher but also has to acknowledge the artist as researcher. This interchanging role between artist and researcher, for Slade, is required in order to carry out this study. This establishment of a

vocabulary to define Inspiration allows for potential moments of new clarity to occur.

This paper argues that a dialogical artistic practice that engages formally with Inspiration as a technique for practice aligns with Roland Barthes' identification of indices and informants. Indices reference the agent (Inspiration), which is identified by Bathes as a suspicion or a philosophy. "Indices involve an activity of deciphering, the reader (Slade) is to learn to know a character (participant) or an atmosphere" (Barthes, 1977, p. 96). This was encountered whilst carrying out an intervention with a participant. The researcher experienced a suspicion and had to decipher that the participant wanted to show Slade their scar on their arm. The artist initiated a discussion about the shape and texture of the scar which led to Slade being invited to touch the exact location of the scar. This tactile exchange was encouraged by the artist's facilitation technique so the act could to take place.



**Figure 2: Tactile exchange captured.**

Whilst in conversation with another participant, the following dialogical exchange occurred (Slade, 2012).

- 1) R: But is your ear or lip as
- 2) Important? (.) o::r as significant?
- 3) As the one on your che::s:t ▲
- 4) P: [No, No]=
- 5) =they're just side stories that
- 6) build the bigger picture <but
- 7) that's my crest>.
- 8) ((P touches left side of chest with
- 9) right hand to indicate to R the site
- 10) of scar))
- 11) R: [Do you think that your scar ▲
- 12) (0.4) lik::e it triggers the
- 13) memory? Of all the games you've
- 14) pla:yed?
- 15) P: [Yer, yer]=
- 16) =I can remember al::most:t every



- 17) game I was injured.  
 18) R: D::o yo:u think <you would  
 19) remember it a:s well> or as often  
 20) if you didn't ha:v:e the s:c:ar::?  
 21) P: NO NO..hhh  
 22) £ definitely, no, the sur::gery and  
 23) the scar <sup>↑</sup> it's a starting point to this  
 24) point mcht in my li::fe?

The use of suggestive questioning line 18-19, functioned as an agent to stimulate a response from the participant. This line of specific questioning was devised in order to trigger the possibility of reflection, and Inspiration for the participant so they could recall their scar story. Lines 7 to 10 demonstrate that during conversation the participant revealed how the scar is their crest and signifies at turning point in their life. It also demonstrates that they were experiencing moments of reflection and insights into what had happened previously through the revisiting of their story activated through conversation. These Inspirational moments of clarity or insight are referred to as the outcomes of a revelation triggered by the active agent (Inspiration) at work.

## CONCLUSION

In depth analysis of narrative is 'interpretative...selective and discerning but also require imagination and creativity' (Back, 2007, p. 21) highlighting a required awareness of the subjective and interpretive nature of a methodology dealing with biographical narrative. As a method it is reliant on the researcher-self to articulate what is an appropriate use of Inspiration within an academic research context. It is also requires self-reflexivity to develop appropriate tools as a researcher to navigate through insights to disseminate what is applicable for the research process. John Freeman describes practice based research as challenging the conventional methods currently employed to disseminate research in order to obtain new knowledge within the academic framework for assessment of creativity (Freeman, 2011). Creativity can be acknowledged within an academic research context, and consideration to its characteristic composition needs to be addressed. Appropriately, this paper proposes that Inspiration is a characteristic that needs to be recognised formally, and, although it is problematic to define, engage and apply to research. It is also a very valuable tool for a

researcher working within a practice based field for enquiry.

The paper closes by asking its reader to acknowledge a definition for Inspiration as a technique which the researcher can apply and use appropriately within a practice based research enquiry. It also makes reference to the complexities and intricacies that are often overlooked when consideration is first made to the use of artistic Inspiration. Inspiration is an essential component in the formulation of a research methodology, and in turn, one's artistic practice.

A conclusion is made, that the recognition of Inspiration and its dissemination and application within research is a skill. It is a skill which can be learnt through practice and application by the researcher. It is a characteristic of creative process which can be used within an academic and artistic rigours research enquiry. The paper concludes that Inspiration can effectively guide the researcher as a research tool and as an effective methodological approach for research by establishing a clear definition for Inspiration by design and application of a rigorous technique.

Inspiration cannot be seen, it can be evidenced in decisions and material outcomes for the research enquiry. But, a visual absence of Inspiration, by its very '*invisibility can have just as powerful an effect as [that which is] visible*' on the research enquiry (Rose, 2012, p218).

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**Alan Abela**, School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment. Alan is currently researching the energy certification of residential buildings in Mediterranean climates. His doctoral research compares and analyses the different approaches taken in Italy, Spain, Cyprus and Malta.

**Austyn Uchennia Akahalu**, School of Arts and Humanities, Department of International Relations. Austyn's primary research interests are International Political Economy (IPE), Conflicts – Negotiations and Resolutions, Human security/insecurity. His thesis is interrogating the role human insecurity vis-a-vis frustration-aggression counter-claims plays in this conflict and its implications for global energy security.

**Leah Bleakley**, School of Arts and Humanities. Leah's thesis explores nineteenth century prostitution in Victorian England. Her research employs an inter-disciplinary methodology, integrating the ideas and approaches of law and history and enabling a more robust investigation.

**Martha Glazzard**, School of Art and Design. After studying knitwear design and working in the technical education of knitting, Martha was led to analyse the methodologies of design teaching and research. Her doctoral research is interested in specific and generic knit methodologies and the application of knowledge for creating functional textiles.

**Emhamad Hamad**, School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment. Emhamad's research is on business incubators in the Arab World, with particular emphasis on the contributions of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the economies of developing countries.

**Greg Koabel**, School of Arts and Humanities. Greg is a doctoral researcher working on masculinity and political authority in early modern England. Recent research presented at conferences includes 'The Duke of Buckingham as Youth' at the Aberystwyth University History Department Colloquium, July 1-3, 2011.

**Amy Manktelow**, School of Arts and Humanities, Department of International Relations. Amy's thesis explores the links between post-colonialism and migration. The research analyses how the creation and maintenance of EU migration policy effects its external relations with other state actors, namely the previously colonized North African states.

**Nikolaos Markoulakis**, School of Arts and Humanities, Department of International Relations. Nikolaos is working on the regional economic development in the Balkans and the interests of Greek capital and foreign policy since its entry in European Monetary Union (EMU).

**George Agyekum-Mensah**, School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment. George's PhD research aims to develop the Total Planner model using IDEF0 methodology to enhance effective project management. His research interest lies in Project Production, Project Planning, Project Control, Construction Project Management, Work Flow and Cost Management.

**Rhiannon Slade**, School of Art and Design. Rhiannon's research is an artistic exploration into the performativity of human scar stories caused by unexpected and accidental moments encountered from everyday life. Stories are collected to examine the potential role of *Conversation as Art* by application of a dialogical methodology.



# Conference Committee

The conference committee are third year Research Practice Course (RPC) students at Nottingham Trent University.

**Jabbar Abbas**, School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment. Jabbar's project, 'The Effect of Collet Type and Material on the Efficiency of a Condition Monitoring System', aims to develop an experimental investigation and computerised model to evaluate the effect of collet type and material selection on the efficiency of a condition monitoring system. Experimental results are compared with a computer model for investigating its effectiveness.

**Andrew Bassett**, School of Arts and Humanities. Andrew's project; 'Multicultural Clinical Interactions: Mental Health Student Nurses' Perspectives', aims to understand from a meaning-centred and clinically applied medical anthropological paradigm, the cultural issues and the strategies used to deal with these issues that emerged in clinical placement from the perspectives of pre-registered mental health student nurses'.

**Kate Blood**, School of Education. Kate's research utilises Bourdieu's conceptual tools habitus and forms of capital to explore the decision-making process of students (aged 14-16). The students are currently studying at Comprehensive and Academy schools and navigating their next steps beyond school while being located in various relationships and social structures.

**Lorela Corbeanu**, School of Arts and Humanities. Lorela's project; 'The Role of the Romanian Press in Reporting High Level Political Corruption', explores how news about high level political corruption is manufactured by the Romanian Press. It uses a discourse based approach and considers the critical economy of mass-media.

**Esme Coulbert**, School of Arts and Humanities. Esme's project; 'Perspectives on the Road: Travel Narratives of Motoring in England, 1896-1930', benefits from an AHRC CDA. She is Editorial Intern of the journal *Studies in Travel Writing*. Publications: "The Romance of the Road: Narratives of Motoring in England 1896-1930' in *Travel Writing and Tourism in Britain and Ireland*, ed. by Benjamin Colbert (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011), pp. 317-342.

**Jia (Michelle) Cui**, School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment. Michelle's research focuses on the occupancy-related energy use and indoor environment of the existing domestic buildings in the UK. The major aims of this study are to develop a rational level of monitoring of real physical households; and to extract robust occupancy patterns from the obtained dataset for residential energy simulation.

**Alice Dallabona**, School of Art and Design. Alice's research explores issues related to fashion, communication and national identity, with a particular interest in Italianicity. Her project revolves around multiple case studies and is characterised by a strong interdisciplinary methodology, utilising tools from several theoretical approaches in order to provide a better understanding of the phenomena under discussion.

**Nicola Donovan**, School of Art and Design. Nicola's research uses the Nottingham lace archive at Nottingham Trent University as a starting point from which public performance with art objects, might engage diverse communities in discourses of Nottingham lace heritage.

**Rachael Folds**, School of Education. Rachael's research investigates the usefulness of Interactive Mimetic Digital Games (IMDG's) with students with Intellectual Disabilities and task association (aged 16-24). The project is undertaken following the Action Research methodology and the results are analysed using a Mixed Method model, to promote triangulation.

**Rebecca Gamble**, School of Art and Design. Rebecca's research radically investigates interactivity and encounters in online social spaces through participatory and performative artistic practice. This practice-as-research enquiry focuses on the convivial and relational aspects of communication, to examine whether it is possible to experience an authentic encounter online.

**Adam Jones**, School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment. Adam's research is on learning and support of older people with digital technologies, such as laptops and information kiosks. The research uses a participatory methodology that includes interviews, focus groups and workshops.

**Melissa Roddis**, School of Arts and Humanities. Melissa's thesis focuses on the tensions arising between ecocritical and posthuman theoretical approaches in literature of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, and the various representations of nature, technology, and the relationship(s) between them in a variety of genres and forms.

**Neil Silcock**, School of Arts and Humanities Department of International Relations. Neil's research examines the role of collective security in the twenty-first Century, mapping its evolution as a system of international peace and security. The research is driven by a liberal institutionalist theory examining the impact of collective security in three case studies, the wars in Bosnia, Kosovo and Afghanistan.

**Nishan Rasanga Wijetunge**, School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment. Nishan's research looks into the domestic architecture of the elites in the age of nationalism in Ceylon/Sri Lanka. This foreground has a background that encompasses the areas of the island's pre-modern elite domestic architectures – Kandyan architecture – as well as Dutch and British period architectures of the modern era.



