Current Contents

Bulletin de sommaires

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Introduction

This *Current contents* published by the CODESRIA Documentation and Information Centre (CODICE) is a current awareness tool produced for social science researchers. It aims primarily to disseminate articles published in CODESRIA journals, namely:

- Africa Development
- Africa Media Review
- Africa Review of Books
- African Journal of International Affairs
- African Sociological Review
- Afrika Zamani
- Afro-Arab Selections for Social Sciences
- CODESRIA Bulletin
- Identity, Culture and Politics: an Afro-Asian Dialogue and
- Journal of Higher Education in Africa;

Besides CODESRIA publications, the Current Contents also highlights the latest issues of some journals subscribed to by CODICE according to their subject and thematic focus.

We hope that you will find it useful and please feel free to send us your comments for improvement.

Ce *Bulletin de sommaires* publié par le Centre de documentation et d’information du CODESRIA (CODICE) est un outil d’information courante réalisé à l’intention des chercheurs en sciences sociales. Il vise à diffuser les articles parus dans les revues publiées par le CODESRIA que sont :

- Afrika Zamani;
- Afrique et développement;
- Bulletin du CODESRIA;
- Identité, culture et politique: un dialogue afro-asiatique
- Revue africaine des affaires internationales;
- Revue africaine des livres;
- Revue africaine des médias;
- Revue africaine de sociologie;
- Revue de l’enseignement supérieur en Afrique.

Au-delà des publications du CODESRIA, le Bulletin de sommaires présente également le contenu des récents numéros de certains des périodiques auxquels le CODICE est abonné, en fonction des sujets et des thèmes spécifiques qu’ils abordent.

Nous espérons qu’il vous sera utile et nous vous prions de nous faire part de vos remarques et suggestions en vue d’en améliorer la qualité.

**CODESRIA Documentation and Information Centre**  
**Centre de documentation et d’information du CODESRIA**  
**(CODICE)**
I – AGRICULTURE

1. New Terra Nullius Narratives and the Gentrification of Africa’s "Empty Lands"

Charles Geisler

Journal of World-Systems Research, Vol. 18, Issue 1, January 2012, p. 15-29

Abstract: Extraterritorial ownership and control of sub-Saharan African land have a long and troubled history. This research investigates a much-studied practice—the recent enclosure of African land and resources—but asks a little-studied question: how are non-Africans reasserting terra nullius narratives of the past to justify the present transformation of African landscapes? The answer suggested here lies in a bulwark of de facto terra nullius claims couched in security needs of the global North and referenced to the low density of Africa’s rural population, its land and labor under-utilization, the ambiguity of its land tenure and related low yields, and its “arrested” civilization. De facto terra nullius is neither narrow in scope nor static in application. It is stirring again as a potent justificatory logic for north-south land relations. [Abstract from Author]


Ben Scully

Journal of World-Systems Research, Vol. 18, Issue 1, January 2012, p. 90-102

Abstract: This article presents a comparison of central debates in South African labor sociology in the 1970s and the contemporary era. I argue that scholars can break through impasses in current labor sociology debates by reviving attention to the land-labor-livelihood (LLL) connections that inspired theoretical advancements in the South African literature of the 1970s. After an introduction and definition of LLL connections, the paper analyzes an exemplary work of the labor literature of the 1970s, giving special attention to the way in which the LLL focus shaped the questions asked by the authors. The article proceeds to a review of central debates from the current labor literature, which focuses primarily on issues of the labor movement. It is argued that this focus on movements has limited the scope of labor scholarship, resulting in an impasse in South African labor debates. An emerging literature that renews attention to the LLL connections is proposed as a model for moving beyond this impasse. I close the article by discussing the implications for this review of South African literature for global labor scholarship. [Abstract from Author]

II - CULTURE-SOCIETY / CULTURE-SOCIETE

3. Cultural Beliefs and Attitudes about Disability in East Africa

Angi Stone-MacDonald; Gretchen Butera


Abstract: This interpretive literature review of cultural beliefs and attitudes about disability in East Africa identified themes in four categories including (a) the causes of disability, (b) attitudes towards disability, (c) treatment of people with disabilities, and (d) language about disability. Referencing the medical, social, and pluralistic frameworks for conceptualizing disability, the authors sought to compare and contrast East Africa with perspectives about disability common in the developed world. Implications for policy and practice are discussed. [Abstract from Author]

4. Cultural Implications of Death and Loss from AIDS among Women in South Africa

Juliet Iwelunmor; Collins O. Airhihenbuwa


Abstract: Over 1.8 million people have died of AIDS in South Africa, and it continues to be a death sentence for many women. The purpose of this study was to examine the broader context of death and loss from HIV/AIDS and to identify the cultural factors that influenced existing beliefs and attitudes. The participants included 110 women recruited from 3 communities in South Africa. Focus group methodology was used to explore their perceptions surrounding death and loss from HIV/AIDS. Using the PEN-3 cultural model, our findings revealed that there were positive perceptions related to how women cope and respond to death and loss from HIV/AIDS. Findings also revealed existential responses
and negative perceptions that strongly influence how women make sense of increasing death and loss from HIV/AIDS. In the advent of rising death and loss from HIV/AIDS, particularly among women, interventions aimed at reducing negative perceptions while increasing positive and existential perceptions are needed. These interventions should be tailored to reflect the cultural factors associated with HIV/AIDS. [Abstract from Publisher]

5. Folk Conceptualizations of Racism and Antiracism in Brazil and South Africa
   Graziella Moraes D. Silva

Abstract: Folk conceptualizations of racism can be defined as ordinary people's understandings of the sources and persistence of racism. They function as equalization strategies – by denying the legitimacy of racism – and guide beliefs regarding antiracism strategies. I explore folk explanations of racism among black professionals in Brazil and South Africa by drawing on sixty interviews with members of these groups. In Brazil, racism is understood as an historical lingering, a product of ignorance, which will disappear with time and education. In South Africa, racism is viewed as more resilient, as a part of human nature and as a consequence of the competition for resources. These explanations of racism are closely related to the antiracism narratives that are salient in these two contexts: while Brazilian respondents affirm their belief in racial mixture and moral education, South African respondents are more uncertain about the possibilities of weaker racial boundaries in their country, relying on institutional constraints as their main antiracism strategy. [Abstract from Publisher]

6. Children's Rights as Living Rights: Why Human Rights Only Make Sense if They Are Connected to the Lives of Children
   Manfred Liebel

Abstract: In the debate on children's rights there is still little attention given to the meaning these rights have for children from diverse social and cultural contexts. Frequently, children whose human rights are violated in the most aggressive ways are seemingly indifferent to them and seldom claim them. By looking at four examples of marginalised groups of children in different parts of the world (street children in Guatemala and India, child refugees in Europe and AIDS orphans in Africa), the paper highlights, why the legal debate and the practice of children's rights has to be connected to the daily life experience of these children and how this could be done. [Abstract From Author]

7. Migrant African Women: Tales of Agency and Belonging
   Olga Guedes Bailey

Abstract: This paper explores issues of belonging and agency among asylum seekers and refugee women of African origin in the UK. It discusses the ways these women engendered resistance in their everyday life to destitution, lack of cultural recognition, and gender inequality through the foundation of their own non-governmental organization, African Women's Empowerment Forum, AWEF, a collective 'home' space. The focus of this account is on migrant women's agency and self-determination for the exercise of choice to be active actors in society. It points to what might be an important phenomenon on how local grassroots movements are challenging the invisibility of asylum seekers’ and refugees’ lives and expanding the notion of politics to embrace a wider notion of community politics with solidarity. AWEF is the embodiment of a social space that resonates the ‘in-between’ experience of migrant life providing stability to the women members regarding political and community identification. [Abstract from Publisher]

8. Zambesi: David Livingstone and the Expeditionary Science in Africa, Lawrence Dritsas
   Lady Jane Acquah
9. Land Dispossession and Global Crisis: Introduction to the Special Section on Land Rights in the World-System
Farshad Araghi; Marina Karides

Abstract: An introduction is presented in which the editor discuss various reports within the issue on topics including the dilemma confronting social movements and land rights, the re-emergence of land grabbing in Africa, and the prevalence of slum-dwelling and its impact on children's health.

10. A Study of Health Beliefs and Practices of the Yoruba
Joseph A. Adepoju

Abstract: The issue of how immigrant populations combine traditional and Western health beliefs and practices has not been given due attention. Hence, this qualitative research study of Yoruba immigrants, an ethnic group from southwestern Nigeria, living in the mid-Atlantic region of the United States, sheds some light on the question of how best to provide culturally appropriate health care to Yoruba immigrant groups with differences in health beliefs and practices. The study found that there are three types of Yoruba immigrant groups: (1) those who use only Western medicine (though mostly for pragmatic reason); (2) those who combine traditional Yoruba and Western beliefs; and (3) those who combine Western medicine and Christian beliefs. [Abstract From Author]

III - ECONOMIC CONDITIONS / CONDITIONS ECONOMIQUES

E. Ike Udogu
Africa Today, Vol. 58, Issue 4, summer 2012, p. 139-142

Daniel Egigba Agbiboa

Abstract: This study critiques the appreciable lack of development in Nigeria and attributes it to the corruption and ineptitude of the country's post-independence rulers. It proposes to remedy the pervasiveness of corruption by incorporating insights from the theory of public choice into the design and execution of new corruption cleanup programs. Such insights include the emplacement of new and more germane rules, reform of existing laws and institutions, provision of more effective and relevant incentive structures, and establishment of enforcement mechanisms to reduce the profitability of post constitutional opportunism. [Abstract from Author]

13. The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: A Skeptical Note
Ummad Mazhar

Abstract: This note casts skepticism over various hypothesis formulated by Acemoglu, Johnson, and Robinson (2001) in reaching the conclusion that institutions cause economic development. I have identified four major issues in the study. It lacks adequate econometric specification and relies only on, what I termed, destiny variables. Secondly, the historical record does not support the author's theory that mortality rate determine Europeans strategy for institutions they intended to develop in the host country; thirdly, given current living standards and disease ridden environment in low and middle income countries, the claim that disease environment of early 19th century was neutral to economic development seems farfetched; finally, assuming that initial institutions caused present institutions put in question the developmental efforts of past half century and thus is more than a sweeping generalization. [Abstract from Author]
IV – EDUCATION

14. Private Schools for the Poor
Josh Kwan

Abstract: The article offers information on the availability of private, secular education system in 2012. It mentions that Gray Matters Capital, a foundation established by real estate developer Bob Pattillo, set out to make measurable markers for the success in schools and a marketplace where parents can access to better transparency and more information when making their decisions. Village Schools International, led by Godfrey Hiari and Emmanuel Masumbuko, educates 6,300 children who would be rejected from government schools, accepting failed students to achieve entrance into government secondary schools.

15. Schooling and Attitudes on Reproductive-Related Behavior in Ghana
Laurie F. De Rose; F. Nii-Amoo Dodoo; Vrushali Patil
International Journal of Sociology of the Family, Vol. 38, Issue 1, spring 2012, p. 50-65

Abstract: We use focus groups of adolescents and young adults in urban Ghana to explore both fertility preferences and expectations about the ability to implement these preferences. The attitudes expressed in groups from a range of educational institutions do not support some common assumptions regarding pathways through which women’s schooling affects fertility. Our results suggest that 1) the inverse relationship between schooling and fertility may not be as strong under conditions of crisis-led fertility transition as in the more common historical experience, and 2) women’s schooling, on its own, is insufficient to change the balance of power in reproductive decision-making in this society. [Abstract from Author]

16. Children’s Work: Experiences of Street-Vending Children and Young People in Enugu, Nigeria
Rosemary C. B. Okoli; Viviene E. Cree

Abstract: There is a widespread consensus internationally, demonstrated in the UN Charter on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and subsequent policy documents, that children should be protected from work that is hazardous and harmful. This paper, based on doctoral research conducted with street-vending children and young people in Nigeria, argues that this approach fails to address the complex reality of children's lives in developing countries. Findings from interviews with itinerant child vendors and participant observation in markets in Enugu, Nigeria, demonstrate that vending is an essential part of children's everyday lives, organised alongside, not separate from, other areas of family life. The paper concludes that it is not helpful to impose developed-world ideas on children's lives in such a different context; the focus of attention should, it is proposed, be on finding out what children and young people think and how they might be better supported and protected within their working environments. [Abstract from Publisher]

17. Redefining Education in the Developing World
Marc J. Epstein; Kristi Yuthas

Abstract: The article focuses on the author's thoughts about the need for redefining quality education in most developing countries. The author claims that children in developing countries fail to finish their primary school and few of them graduate from secondary school. He asserts that the UNESCO's Education for All program increases enrollment, but there are many school dropout children. He describes a robust educational model which he claims is a combination of traditional content and financial, health, and administrative skills.
18. Self-Development of Intercultural Competence in Academic Exchange Programmes: Students' Attitude
Norviliene Aida

Abstract: The paper analyses the role of academic exchange programmes in students' intercultural competence self-development. Research literature indicates that academic exchange helps students to improve their learning and general competences. This encouraged an enquiry into the attitude of students towards the development of intercultural competence in academic exchange programmes. The results of the interview conducted in the spring of 2011 are presented in this paper. The study involved 15 students who went abroad to study under the Erasmus programme. The analysis highlights the students' approach to the main elements of intercultural competence and educational features of participating in academic exchange programmes. [Abstract from Author]

V - EMPLOYMENT / EMPLOI

Ben Scully
Journal of World-Systems Research, Vol. 18, Issue 1, Jan2012, p. 90-102

Abstract: This article presents a comparison of central debates in South African labor sociology in the 1970s and the contemporary era. I argue that scholars can break through impasses in current labor sociology debates by reviving attention to the land-labor-livelihood (LLL) connections that inspired theoretical advancements in the South African literature of the 1970s. After an introduction and definition of LLL connections, the paper analyzes an exemplary work of the labor literature of the 1970s, giving special attention to the way in which the LLL focus shaped the questions asked by the authors. The article proceeds to a review of central debates from the current labor literature, which focuses primarily on issues of the labor movement. It is argued that this focus on movements has limited the scope of labor scholarship, resulting in an impasse in South African labor debates. An emerging literature that renews attention to the LLL connections is proposed as a model for moving beyond this impasse. I close the article by discussing the implications for this review of South African literature for global labor scholarship. [Abstract from Author]

20. 'Our Struggles are Bigger than the World Cup': Civic Activism, State-Society Relations and the Socio-Political Legacies of the 2010 FIFA World Cup
Scarlett Cornelissen

Abstract: South Africa's hosting of the 2010 FIFA World Cup saw a large number of public demonstrations, strikes and other forms of civic campaigning. World Cup activism was both preceded and followed by extensive and intensifying public unrest and industrial action that in the period before the tournament, threatened to derail the event. This paper assesses the motivations, forms and implications of the activism during South Africa's staging of the FIFA finals and interprets them against the larger context of shifting state-society relations in the country. There are two purposes to the analysis. First, to explore the underlying internal social forces that gave shape to the protests at the time, and the possible influence of the exogenous politics of mega-event social mobilization. Second, the implications and outcomes of these dynamics for longer term socio-political processes in the country are considered. The activism displayed many of the features of the politics of contestation of sport mega-events today. Importantly, however, the activism stemmed from a particular systemic dynamic and reflected changing relations in the post-apartheid political community. Therefore, while the World Cup was used as a strategic opportunity by many advocacy groups, it was one that rather fleetingly and ambivalently presented an additional platform to such groups in an otherwise on-going set of political battles. Rather than a strong case study of sport's transformative capacity, the civic campaigning during South Africa's World Cup demonstrates the way a sport mega-event can be used as a strategic entry point by civil society groups in their engagement with the state, although this can occur with greater or lesser success. [Abstract from Author]
VI - ENVIRONMENT / ENVIRONNEMENT

21. Labour and Environment in Global Perspective
*Rakesh A. Joshi; Falguni S. Vyas*

Abstract: The article discusses the importance of protecting the environment to preserve employment and fight back poverty. It explores the factors that contribute to environmental imbalance such as population explosion and the ever-increasing demand for the materialistic consumption, resulting to the increase of pollution. It suggests the importance for governments, environmentalists, and economists to coordinate and think of concrete policies to ensure environmental protection.

22. Climate: the Forgotten Culprit. The Ecological Dimension of the Darfur Conflict
*Younes Abouyoub*

Abstract: Even though one cannot deny the importance of the ethnic dimension in the Darfur conflict, it cannot be argued it was the triggering factor of the conflict, but rather has gradually imposed itself more as a consequence of the prolonged conflict than a cause. While the conflict in Darfur is over-determined, and a complex web of triggering factors have contributed to its eruption, this paper argues nevertheless that the conflict which has been going on, with varying intensity, since the early 1980s in the region of Jebel Mara (north Darfur) is in fact an ecological conflict par excellence in which issues of race and ethnicity have been used by the warring parties-and unfortunately the mainstream western media also-as mobilizing tools although regrettably they have ended up being ends in themselves. [Abstract from Author]

23. Religious Motivations for Local Economic Development in Senegal
*Laura L. Cochrane*
*Africa Today*, Vol. 58, Issue 4, summer 2012, p. 3-19

Abstract: Environmental and economic crises, including land degradation from drought and increased global food prices, have become localized challenges for communities across the Sahel. Towns throughout central Senegal have struggled to maintain the agricultural and business enterprises on which they once relied. Ndem, a village within this region, has addressed these challenges through its artisanal cooperative, now incorporated into a nongovernmental organization. While Ndem's leaders have sound business plans, this essay argues that the continued viability of both the village and the cooperative is the result of a community-shared spiritual motivation for the work. Islam, the Murid Sufi order, and the Baay Fall suborder of the Muridiyya provide teachings that directly influence Ndem's spiritual life and business practices. [Abstract from Author]

VII - FINANCING / FINANCEMENT

24. Adjustment in the Role of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) in Sub-Saharan Africa
*Roshen Hendrickson*

Abstract: The Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), an American government agency that promotes private investment in developing nations, has been a contested agency since its inception. Critics contend that it subsidizes big business, distorts market signals, and supports projects that have a detrimental effect on local communities. Its supporters argue that it is central to the U.S. foreign development-assistance strategy. In this article, I analyze the historical debate over its role and show how systemic and domestic pressures triggered adjustments in its activities that enabled its survival. I illustrate these adjustments with an analysis of its role in sub-Saharan Africa that
draws out both the promotion of U.S. economic interests and the evolution of progressive governance guidelines that increase its chances of promoting sustainable development. [Abstract from Author]

VIII - GENDER / LE GENRE

25. Women and Nongovernmental Organizations in Developing Countries
   Lalima Srivastava ; Michael J. Austin
   Social Development, Vol. 34, Issue 1, 2012, p. 77-91

Abstract: This analysis focuses on patterns of oppression, subjugation, isolation, and exploitation that women experience and the different interventions by nongovernmental organizations to mitigate them over the past three decades. The findings highlight the cultural and organizational factors preventing gender mainstreaming and empowering

IX - HEALTH / SANTE

26. Health-Related Quality of Life and Antiretroviral Therapy in Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa
   Karl Peltzer

Abstract: In studies conducted with African and Asian cohorts researchers have shown the clinical efficacy of antiretroviral therapy (ART) in resource-limited settings. However, studies on the longer term changes in health-related quality of life (HRQoL) with patients receiving ART in these settings are still scarce. The aim in this study was to assess HIV patients' HRQoL, clinical, psychosocial, and sociodemographic factors at 3 public hospitals in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa over 20 months. Patients (N = 735) who attended 3 HIV clinics completed interview assessments prior to initiation of antiretroviral therapy; 519 after 6 months, 557 after 12, and 499 after 20 months on ART. Results indicate that total HRQoL increased, as did general quality of life, general health, independence, social relationships, and environment. HIV symptoms, depression symptom ratings, and internalized stigma reduced over time, whereas CD4 cell counts (number of helper T cells per cubic milliliter of blood), adherence to ART, and social support increased. Total HRQoL, the physical and psychological HRQoL domains, and internalized stigma improved at first and then deteriorated almost to baseline levels. Significant independent predictors of good HRQoL were low internalized stigma, being employed, earning wages, higher CD4 cell counts, and fewer and less severe HIV and depressive symptoms. In order to maximize gains in HRQoL for patients on ART, interventions are needed that address and reduce stigmatization and enhance the economic and employment opportunities. [Abstract from Author]

27. Migration, Marital Change, and HIV Infection in Malawi
   Philip Anglewicz
   Demography, Vol. 49, Issue 1, February 2012, p. 239-265

Abstract: Research on the relationship between migration and HIV infection in sub-Saharan Africa often suggests that migrants are at higher risk of HIV infection because they are more likely to engage in HIV risk behaviors than non-migrants, and they tend to move to areas with a relatively higher HIV prevalence. Although migration may be a risk factor for HIV infection, I instead focus on the possibility that the HIV positive are more likely to migrate. Using a longitudinal data set of permanent rural residents and migrants from Malawi, I find that migrants originating from rural areas are indeed more likely than non-migrants to be HIV positive and to have engaged in HIV risk behaviors. The increased HIV risk among migrants may be due to the selection of HIV-positive individuals into migration; I find that HIV-positive individuals are more likely to migrate than those who are HIV negative. The explanation for this phenomenon appears to be marital instability, which occurs more frequently among HIV-positive individuals and leads to migration after marital change. [Abstract from Author]
28. Beyond the Distinction Between Biomedical and Social Dimensions of HIV: Prevention Through the Lens of a Social Public Health
Susan Kippax; Niamh Stephenson

Abstract: Developing effective HIV prevention requires that we move beyond the historical but problematic distinction between biomedical and social dimensions of HIV. The current claim that prevention has failed has led to a strong interest in the role of treatment as HIV prevention; however, the turn to “biomedical prevention,” “test and treat,” and “combination prevention” instances pervasive confusions about prevention. These confusions arise from a failure to realize that all HIV prevention interventions must engage with the everyday lives of people and be integrated into their social relations and social practices. We challenge the claim that prevention has failed (illustrating this with discussion of prevention in Australia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe). We explain the enduring appeal of misguided approaches to prevention by examining how 1996 can be seen as a pivotal moment in the history of the global response to HIV, a moment marked by the rise and fall of distinct biomedical and social narratives of HIV. [Abstract from Author]

Dorothy Rombo; Jane Njue

Abstract: We have analyzed the impact of Section 6 of The Kenya HIV and AIDS Prevention Act on Kenyan families and especially within marriage. In 2006 Kenya passed two bills into law: The Kenya HIV and AIDS Prevention Act and The Sexual Offences Act. The latter addresses sexual offenses including rape, incest and other acts of sexual violence and relates to the Prevention Act in that HIV infection may be transmitted during a sexual offense. Section 6 of the Prevention Act focuses on the sensitive issue of secondary and tertiary transmission of HIV. Although protection is accorded to individuals living with HIV, this section of the law places responsibility on this group to reduce infections among positive individuals as well as the spread of infection between spouses [when only one partner is positive] by criminalizing recklessness leading to HIV infection. By asking questions proposed in the family impact analysis such as, does the law enhance family stability, and commitment or does it acknowledge diverse family forms, interdependence and target vulnerable groups, the framework allows us to examine the impact of Section 6 of the law on families. Under the FIA framework, the ability of The Prevention Act to enhance family functions, promote wellbeing, marital stability, commitment and responsibility is considered while taking into account the contextual realities in Kenya. [Abstract from Author]

30. Impact of School-Based HIV Prevention Program in Post-Conflict Liberia
Katharine Atwood; Stephen Kennedy; Steve Shamblen…
AIDS Education & Prevention, Vol. 24, Issue 1, February 2012, p. 68-77

Abstract: This paper presents findings of a feasibility study to adapt and evaluate the impact of an evidence-based HIV prevention intervention on sexual risk behaviors of in-school 6th grade youth in post-conflict Liberia (n == 812). The study used an attention-matched, group randomized controlled trial. Four matched pairs of elementary/middle schools in Monrovia, Liberia, were randomly assigned to either an adapted eight-module HIV prevention or a general health curriculum. Three- and nine-month impacts of the intervention on sexual risk behaviors and on mediating variables are presented. The intervention significantly impacted protective peer norms and positive condom attitudes and increased frequency of condom use at the nine-month follow-up. The intervention did not impact sexual initiation or multiple sex partnerships. Future intervention research should address the salient pressures that are unique to post-conflict settings and include longer follow-up time periods and smaller class sizes to meaningfully impact sexual initiation and multiple sex partnerships. [Abstract from Author]
31. Ordinary people doing extraordinary things: responses to stigmatization in comparative perspective
Michèle Lamont; Nissim Mizrachi

Abstract: This special issue offers a first systematic qualitative cross-national exploration of how diverse minority groups respond to stigmatization in a wide variety of contexts. This research is the culmination of a coordinated study of stigmatized groups in Brazil, Israel and the USA, as well as of connected research projects conducted in Canada, France, South Africa and Sweden. The issue sheds light on the range of destigmatization strategies ordinary people adopt in the course of their daily life. Articles analyse the cultural frames they mobilize to make sense of their experiences and to determine how to respond; how they negotiate and transform social and symbolic boundaries; and how responses are enabled and constrained by institutions, national ideologies, cultural repertoires and contexts. The similarities and differences across sites provide points of departure for further systematic research, which is particularly needed in light of the challenges for liberal democracy raised by multiculturalism. [Abstract from Publisher]

Zemelak Ayitenew Ayele; Yonatan Tesfaye Fessha

Abstract: The concept of autonomous local government enjoying powers that directly emanate from a constitution is unknown to many federations; however, recent developments suggest an increasing constitutional recognition of local government. A constitutional recognition entrenches the status and autonomy of local government. It represents a formal guarantee against any arbitrary elimination of local government by the national or subnational government. This article seeks to determine whether the Constitution of Ethiopia envisages the establishment of an autonomous local government or a deconcentrated local administration that serves as implementing agent of the national or regional states. The text argues that local government in Ethiopia enjoys some level of constitutional recognition; however, the lack of clearly specified powers, together with overwhelming financial dependence on regional governments, has rendered the promise of autonomous local government a pious wish. [Abstract from Author]

33. Introduction – The ‘Missing’ Concept: What is the ‘Public Sphere’ Good for?
Abdul Raufu Mustapha

34. Interrogating Public Sphere and Popular Culture as Theoretical Concepts on their Value in African Studies
Wendy Willems
Afrique et développement/Africa Development, Vol. 37, n° 1, 2012, p. 11-26

Abstract: Concepts such as civil society and public sphere have been frequently used both as analytical tools and as normative concepts deemed essential to a well functioning liberal democracy. Because of its theoretical roots in Western liberal thinking, scholars in African studies such as Comaroffs, Mamdani and Ekeh have vigorously debated the extent to which the concept of civil society is useful in explaining and interrogating developments in Africa. However, the concept of the public sphere has been subjected to less rigorous debate in the field of African studies. In media studies and political science, however, a number of scholars have problematised the normative connotations and idealistic assumptions of the Habermasian public sphere. This article argues that both the debate on civil society in African studies and the debate on public sphere in media studies and political science could inform a more critical discussion on the relevance of the concept of public sphere in African contexts. Secondly, the article contends that the concept of popular culture addresses some of the concerns brought up by critics of the concept of public sphere. It argues that popular culture is the public sphere of ordinary Africans, but we must be careful about how we define popular culture itself.
Résumé : Les concepts tels que société civile et espace public ont souvent été utilisés comme des outils d’analyse, mais aussi comme des concepts jugés essentiels pour une bonne démocratie libérale. Du fait que ses origines théoriques se retrouvent dans la pensée libérale des Occidentaux, des intellectuels africains tels que Comaroffs, Mamdani et Ekeh ont vigoureusement débattu l’utilité du concept de société civile dans l’explication et l’analyse de ce qui se passe en Afrique. Seulement, le concept de l’espace public n’a pas été soumis à autant de débats dans le domaine des études africaines. Pourtant, au niveau des études des médias et de la science politique, plusieurs chercheurs ont étudié la problématique des connotations normatives et des conceptions idéalistes de l’espace public habermasien. Ce qui est d’un apport considérable dans la discussion critique sur la pertinence du concept de l’espace public dans le contexte africain. Aussi, l’article soutient que le concept de culture populaire est l’espace public du commun des africains. Cependant, on doit faire attention à la manière dont on définit la culture populaire.

35. The Public Sphere in 21 Century Africa : Broadening the Horizons of Democratisation
Abdul Raufu Mustapha
Afrique et développement/Africa Development, Vol. 37, n° 1, 2012, p. 27-42

Abstract: The public sphere, as the crucible for public opinion, is indispensable to modern democratic politics. This paper traces the seminal contributions of the German critical theorist, Jurgen Habermas to the elaboration of the concept. However, while Habermas’ conception has had a profound impact, it has nevertheless been criticised on fundamental grounds. And contemporary globalisation and technological changes have also had important implications for our understanding of the concept. I seek to elaborate the development of the idea of the public sphere from Habermas to the era of internet globalisation.

I also examine the specific ways the idea has found expression in post-colonial Africa, showing how the global intellectual trajectory shapes the applicability of the concept to specific African contexts. If the concept of the public sphere is to relate to African realities, it must be understood not as a single public – a la Habermas – or ‘Two Publics’ – a la Ekeh, but as a multiplicity of overlapping publics. I argue that we can fruitfully re-interpret contemporary democratisation in Africa against the backdrop of this understanding of the concept of the public sphere, taking full cognizance of the other criticisms of the concept.

Résumé : En tant qu’instrument essentiel pour l’opinion public, l’espace public est indispensable à la politique démocratique moderne. Cet article retrace la contribution importante du critique allemand de la théorie, Jurgen Habermas, dans l’élaboration du concept. Cependant, même si la conception de Habermas a eu un profond impact, elle n’a jamais été critiquée à la base. La mondialisation actuelle et les innovations technologiques ont, elles aussi, eu des conséquences importantes dans notre compréhension du concept. Cet article retrace le développement du concept de l’espace public du temps de Habermas jusqu’à la mondialisation d’Internet. Il examine les différentes expressions du concept en Afrique après les indépendances, montrant ainsi que la trajectoire intellectuelle globale détermine l’applicabilité du concept aux contextes spécifiques africains.

Si le concept de l’espace public doit être lié aux réalités africaines, il ne devrait pas être compris comme un seul public – à la Habermas – ou ‘Deux Publics’ – à la Ekeh, mais plutôt comme une multiplicité de publics qui se chevauchent par endroit. L’article défend l’idée qu’on peut d’une façon productive interpréter la démocratisation actuelle en Afrique en se basant sur cette compréhension du concept de l’espace public tout en prenant en compte les autres critiques du concept.

36. Public Sphere and Epistemologies of the South
Boaventura de Sousa Santos
Afrique et développement/Africa Development, Vol. 37, n° 1, 2012, p. 43-68

Abstract: The ‘public sphere’ is one of the key concepts of the social theory produced in the global North. But does the global South need this concept? Its theoretical and cultural presuppositions are entirely European. They are not necessarily universally valid, even when they purport to be general theories. If the epistemological diversity of the world is to be accounted for, other theories must be developed and anchored in other epistemologies – the epistemologies of the South that adequately account for the realities of the global South. This paper is a meta-theoretical critique of the concept of the public sphere from the standpoint of the need for this epistemological diversity. It emphasizes the need for intercultural translation, understood as a procedure that allows for mutual intelligibility among the diverse experiences of the world. Such a procedure does not endow any set of experiences with the statute either of exclusive totality or homogenous part. In the African context, this work of translation involves two moments. First, a deconstructive challenge which consists in identifying the Eurocentric remains inherited from colonialism.
Secondly, a reconstructive challenge which consists in revitalising the historical and cultural possibilities of the African legacy, interrupted by colonialism and neocolonialism. In this twofold movement of social experiences relations of mutual intelligibility emerge which must not result in the cannibalisation of some by others.

Résumé: L’espace public est l’un des principaux concepts de la théorie sociale produite dans le Nord. Mais est-ce que le Sud a besoin de ce concept ? Ses présuppositions théoriques et culturelles qui sont entièrement européennes ne sont pas toujours valables universellement, même si elles prétendent être des théories générales. La diversité épistémologique dans le monde est une évidence. Par conséquent, d’autres théories doivent se baser sur d’autres épistémologies. Tel doit être le cas des épistémologies du Sud qui doivent adéquatement refléter les réalités du Sud. Cet article est donc une critique métathéorique du concept d’espace public vu sous l’angle de la nécessité d’une diversité épistémologique. Il met en relief la nécessité de la traduction interculturelle qui doit être comprise comme étant la procédure qui permet l’intelligibilité mutuelle des différentes expériences du monde. Une telle procédure n’investit un statut de totalité exclusive ou d’homogénéité à aucun ensemble d’expérience. Ce travail de traduction en Afrique implique deux moments.

Premièrement, le défi de la déconstruction qui consiste à identifier les vestiges eurocentriques qui émanent du colonialisme. Deuxièmement, le défi de la reconstruction qui consiste à revitaliser les possibilités historiques et culturelles de l’héritage africain qui a été bouleversé par le colonialisme et le néocolonialisme. C’est à travers ce mouvement à deux temps des expériences sociales qu’une relation d’intelligibilité mutuelle va naître. Une relation qui ne devra pas résulter sur la cannibalisation de l’un par l’autre.

37. The Emergence of Public Spheres in Colonial Cameroon: Palm Wine Drinking Joints in Bamenda Township

Nicodemus Fru Awasom

Afrique et développement/Africa Development, Vol. 37, n° 1, 2012, p. 69-84

Abstract: Habermas’ concept of public sphere encompasses a variety of meanings, including social sites where meanings are articulated, distributed and negotiated, as well as the collective body constituted by – i.e. ‘the public’ in this process. Thus, any area in social life where people congregate and freely discuss and identify societal problems and, through that discussion influence public and political action, constitutes the public sphere. This paper argues that Habermas’ conception is relevant to Africa and sets out to examine the emergence, functioning, and consequences of palm wine drinking joints in 20th century colonial Bamenda Township as public spheres par excellence à la Habermas.

Résumé : Le concept de l’espace public selon Habermas renferme plusieurs sens parmi lesquels les sites sociaux où les concepts sont articulés, distribués et négociés, en plus de l’entité collective constituée, par exemple, par le ‘public’ dans le processus. Ainsi, est espace public tout espace dans la vie sociale où les gens se rencontrent pour discuter librement et identifier les problèmes sociaux, et à travers cette discussion, influencent les actions publiques et politiques. Cet article défend la théorie que la conception de Habermas est pertinente pour l’Afrique. Il examine l’émergence, le fonctionnement et les conséquences des espaces publics par excellence qui étaient, durant la période coloniale, des endroits qui servaient à la consommation du vin de palme dans les bidonvilles de Bamenda.

38. Ambivalence and Activism: Netizens, Social Transformation and African Virtual Publics

Yunusa Z. Ya’u


Abstract: Despite the fact that Africa is the least connected continent on the internet, the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) is becoming pervasive and deeply embedded in social and political relations. They are impacting on the way citizens live their lives and relate to both the state and other actors in the society. In this process, some citizens are becoming ‘netizens’. Cyber networking, which has been facilitated by access to ICTs, has given rise to a public sphere that is virtual. This paper explores some of the key issues relating to the development of ICTs in Africa and the social and political processes they have spawned in their wake. It is argued that while the virtual public is not unique to Africa, its manifestations, organizational modes, and concerns in Africa are informed by African conditions, both in terms of the specific issues addressed and the wider context of technological deficit that the continent faces.
Résumé : En Afrique, l’utilisation des technologies de l’information et de la communication devient de plus en plus répandue et s’ancre davantage dans les relations sociales et politiques malgré le fait qu’elle est le continent le moins connecté sur internet. Les TIC ont affecté la façon dont les citoyens mènent leur vie, mais aussi comment ils interagissent avec l’Etat et les autres acteurs de la société. C’est ainsi que certains citoyens sont devenus ‘netoyens’. L’accès aux TIC a facilité le réseautage à travers le cyber ; ce qui a donné naissance à un espace public virtuel. Cet article explore des questions essentielles par rapport au développement des TIC en Afrique aussi bien que les processus sociaux et politiques qu’elles ont engendré. Selon l’article, même si l’espace public virtuel n’est pas propre à l’Afrique, ses manifestations, ses modes d’organisation et ses préoccupations dans ce continent sont plutôt déterminés pas les conditions, les questions spécifiques abordées et le contexte général de déficit technologique auxquels le continent est confronté.

39. The Internet as Public Sphere : A Zimbabwean Case Study (1999-2008)
Kudakwashe Manganga
Afrique et développement/Africa Development, Vol. 37, n° 1, 2012, p. 103-120

Abstract: The appearance of the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) on Zimbabwe’s political landscape in 1999 and the publication of independent newspapers provided Zimbabweans with alternative public spheres to the government controlled media. Through these counter-publics Zimbabweans articulated their protests against the deteriorating economic and political situation in the country. However, legislations like the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (AIPPA) and the Public Order and Security Act (POSA) have since 2002 enabled the government to exert a stranglehold over the free flow of information. This has subsequently forced Zimbabweans to resort to the Internet to articulate their political views without fear of reprisals from the state. This paper addresses the key features, problems, and prospects of this cyber public sphere.


XI - INDUSTRY / INDUSTRIE

40. Processing Promises of Gold: A Minefield of Company--Community Relations in Burkina Faso
Sabine Luning

Abstract: Africa has seen a surge in foreign mining operations. This article analyzes the impact of mining explorations on company-- community and intercommunity relationships in Burkina Faso. Burkina Faso’s new neoliberal mining code compels exploration companies to negotiate with communities and acknowledge local practices at their exploration sites. The article examines interactions between locals and the staff of a foreign gold-exploration company-- from initial contacts, marked by promises and expectations, to the point when disappointments started affecting alliances and increasing tensions in neighborly relationships. Against the backdrop of the 2008 credit crisis and its effects on Canadian junior companies, this analysis shows how the politics of belonging and shifting interpretations of autochthony articulate with the dynamics of mining exploration. [Abstract from Author]
41. Applying Appreciative Inquiry in Building Capacity in a Nongovernmental Organization for Youths: An Example from Soweto, Gauteng, South Africa

Hanna Nel; Edmarie Pretorius

Abstract: This article presents the application of appreciative inquiry (AI) with a development NGO to facilitate transformation of the management committee to become a more efficient, constructive, and creative team. In the study, the process of AI was implemented with the management committee and participatory research was applied. It was evident that the approach empowered committee members, which strengthened the NGO's capacity, identified potential, and facilitated change and sustainable development in the community. [Abstract from Author]

42. A Post-Fordist Ethnicity: Insecurity, Authority, and Identity in South Africa

Hylton White

Abstract: The expression of ethnicity in postcolonial public life is typically regarded as a regression to the legacies of a colonial rule of difference. Taking the case of Jacob Zuma's controversial appeals to his Zuluness in the run-up to the South African elections of 2009, I propose a different analysis that grounds a more contemporary mode of ethnic attachment in the dynamics of post-Fordist sociality. Zuma's supporters utterly rejected the concatenation of culture, local authority, and ethnic population. It was Zuma's own identification with Zuluness in his personal life that made him into an intimate, of the very most up-to-date kind. Through this identification his supporters hoped to inhabit an unmediated relationship with a powerful and loving state, in scenes of embrace with ethnically grounded normalcy and security. [Abstract from Author]

43. A Qualitative Study of Obstacles to Diaphragm and Condom Use in an HIV Prevention Trial in Sub-Saharan Africa

Deborah Kacanek; Amanda Dennis; Nuriye Nalan Sahin-Hodoglugil; Elisabeth T. Montgomery; Neetha Morar; Sibongile Mtetwa; Nkala Busi; Jessica Phillip; Connie Watadzaushe; Ariane van der Straten
AIDS Education & Prevention, Vol. 24, Issue 1, February 2012, p. 54-67

Abstract: Consistent condom use and the substitution of condoms with potential HIV prevention methods of lower or unknown effectiveness are important concerns in the development of new prevention technologies. This qualitative study explored obstacles to consistent condom use with the diaphragm/gel in MIRA, an HIV prevention trial in South Africa and Zimbabwe. We conducted 26 focus group discussions (FGDs) with 206 women and 7 FGDs and 10 in-depth interviews with 41 male partners of intervention arm women. The belief that the diaphragm/gel prevented HIV, women's difficulties negotiating condom use, and men's unawareness that using the products together was recommended were obstacles to consistent condom use with the diaphragm/gel. Concerns about protection from HIV and pregnancy, recognition that the diaphragm was not yet proven to prevent HIV or sexually transmitted infections, and the trial context were facilitators. Understanding selective study product use in HIV prevention trials may inform improved adherence counseling and male involvement strategies. [Abstract from Author]

44. Child Mobility, Maternal Status, and Household Composition in Rural South Africa.

Sangeetha Madhavan; Enid Schatz; Samuel Clark; Mark Collinson
Abstract: This article examines the influence of maternal status, socioeconomic status of the household, and household composition on the mobility of children aged 0-14 in Mpumalanga Province, South Africa, from 1999 to 2008. Using data from the Agincourt Health and Demographic Surveillance System, we found that children whose mothers were temporary migrants, living elsewhere, or dead had higher odds of moving than children whose mothers were coresident. Older children and children living in richer households faced lower odds of mobility. For children whose mothers were coresident, there was no effect of maternal substitutes on child mobility. However, among children whose mothers were temporary migrants or living elsewhere, the presence of prime-aged and elderly females lowered the odds of mobility. For maternal orphans, the presence of elderly women in the household lowered their odds of mobility. The results underscore the importance of examining the conditions under which children move in order to strengthen service delivery targeted at safeguarding children's well-being. [Abstract from Author]

45. Correlates of Male Condom Use Skills among High-Risk Women in South Africa
Felicia A. Browne; Wendee M. Wechsberg; J. Michael Bowling; Winnie K. Luseno

Abstract: This exploratory study examined the performance of 295 South African women—who recently traded sex for goods or had unprotected sex—on a male condom use mastery index. Bivariate and multivariate logistic regression analyses were conducted to determine whether age, marital status, highest education obtained, male condom use at first penetrative sex, receiving prior demonstration of male condom use, recent sexually transmitted infection symptoms, and recently trading sex were significantly associated with index scores. Adjusted odds ratios indicated that age and sexually transmitted infection symptoms were negatively associated with condom skills; women who were older and had a higher number of recent sexually transmitted infection symptoms were more likely to have lower scores. Furthermore, participants executed, on average, approximately one third of condom use steps correctly. These findings suggest a need for increased behavioral skills training for women engaging in sexual risk behaviors because many lack the skills required to use a male condom properly. [Abstract from Publisher]

46. Children's Rights as Living Rights: Why Human Rights only Make Sense if they are Connected to the Lives of Children
Manfred Liebel

Abstract: In the debate on children's rights there is still little attention given to the meaning these rights have for children from diverse social and cultural contexts. Frequently, children whose human rights are violated in the most aggressive ways are seemingly indifferent to them and seldom claim them. By looking at four examples of marginalised groups of children in different parts of the world (street children in Guatemala and India, child refugees in Europe and AIDS orphans in Africa), the paper highlights, why the legal debate and the practice of children's rights has to be connected to the daily life experience of these children and how this could be done. [Abstract from Author]

47. The Perils of Belonging: Autochthony, Citizenship, and Exclusion in Africa and Europe
Hauke Dorsch
Anthropological Quarterly, Vol. 85, Issue 1, winter 2012, p. 301-305


48. Kinship Support Orientations and Class Dynamics of Nigerian International Migrants
Olayinka Akanle

Abstract: Migration studies and development efforts have typically concentrated on volume and potentials of remittances as demonstration of return migrants' role in socioeconomic development of their homeland in developing countries. Often overlooked in these studies are the implications of kinship and class dynamics and return migrations. This article focuses on how socio-economic class of Nigerian migrants and their kin interrelate to determine support giving and receiving processes and inform international migrations. The article is mainly based on primary data,
collected through in-depth interviews, focus group discussions and life histories. Secondary data was also gathered. Findings suggest that kinship remains relevant among international migrants and both the migrants and their kin leveraged on kinship networks as capital. Also, in understanding Nigerians' international migrations within, class forces must be sufficiently considered and comprehended. [Abstract from Author]

49. “The Young Ones are the Condom Generation”: Condom Use amongst Out-of-School Adolescents in Rural Southwest Uganda
Ann-Maree Nobelius; Bessie Kalina; Robert Pool…et al.
Journal of Sex Research, Vol. 49, Issue 1, January/February 2012, p. 88-102

Abstract: This article reports on factors influencing condom use among out-of-school adolescents in rural southwest Uganda. Despite an abundance of negative discourses and myths about condoms in the community, these adolescents believe condoms protect them from sexually transmitted infections, HIV, and premarital pregnancies. Girls want partners to use condoms, but most lack the confidence to insist. Girls aged 13 to 14 reported the least difficulty asking for condoms; older girls attributed this to coming-of-age in the era of AIDS when condom use is the norm. Boys under 16 years want to use condoms, but lack confidence in application skills. Boys over 17 years always use condoms with casual partners, but only occasionally for pregnancy prevention with steady partners. Girls need skills training to improve confidence in negotiating condom use. Younger boys require training to improve confidence in skills with condom application. These findings are compared with studies conducted with in-school adolescents in the same study area. Health promotions that provide this skills training and focus on the need to think of the health of future family would be most effective for out-of-school adolescents. This study shows that it is self-confidence, rather than years of schooling, that has the greatest impact on condom use in this cohort. [Abstract from Publisher]

50. Premarital Agreements and the Young Couple
Linda J. Ravdin

51. What's Mine is Yours, and What's Yours is Mine…Until Divorce: Theory of Transmutation
Robert J. Rufus; Laura S. Miller

52. What is on a Demographer's Mind? A Worldwide Survey
Hendrik P. van Dalen; Kène Henkens
Demographic Research, Vol. 26, January-June 2012, p. 363-408

Abstract: Over the years, the community of demographers has grown in numbers and research interests, and has become increasingly interdisciplinary. The question is whether this process of growth and diversity has led to a fragmented community of demographers. OBJECTIVE We examine whether or not demographers are characterized by a high level of consensus in approach and outlook. We focus on two issues. The first relates to the level of consensus among demographers on what they perceive to be the most urgent population issues, and what their opinions are about population and fertility developments. The second issue focuses on the question of whether or not there is a common approach or research style among demographers. METHODS We gain insight into the opinions and attitudes of 970 demographers on the basis of an internet survey among IUSSP members, carried out in 2009. RESULTS There is a high level of consensus on what is considered the most important population issue: 'population aging'. With respect to population policy, demographers are greatly divided. There is, however, a high level of consensus on what makes a demographer successful: being highly empirical. Demography seems to be a well integrated discipline, as applied researchers take note of what pure researchers publish and vice versa. Demography has scientific leaders who form a unifying power within the discipline. CONCLUSIONS The core of the discipline of demography is to be found in an openness to insights from different disciplines, a commitment to data and empirical research, and well integrated spheres of applied and pure research. [Abstract from Author]
53. Technology Inertia and Poverty Trap in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Case of Nigeria

Peter Ezeah

*Bangladesh e-Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 9, Issue 1, January 2012, p. 30-37

**Abstract**: Since the industrial revolution, advances in science and technology have continuously accounted for most of the growth and wealth accumulation in the leading industrialized economies. In recent years, the contribution of technological progress to growth and welfare improvement has increased, especially with the globalization process which is characterized by exponential growth in export of manufactured goods. This scenario is however absent in Africa and particularly Nigeria where there is technological inertia and a poverty trap. This paper argues that despite the fact that there exists a plethora of technology policies in Nigeria full benefits have not been derived from these efforts due to the absence of a strong innovation component in the policies. Secondly, Nigeria's technological progress is flawed as a result of the underutilization of indigenous talents for technological development and the undue emphasis placed on academic credentials. The paper submits that overcoming the technology inertia in Nigeria is essential to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). To this end the talent-based indigenous technological development approach is recommended for employment generation and poverty reduction in the country. [Abstract from Author]

54. Using the Ipad for Profit and Fun in Family Law Practice

Jeffrey Allen


**Abstract**: A couple of years ago a guy by the name of Steve Jobs introduced a new product developed by his company, Apple, Inc. The product, called the iPad had evolved from the iPod, the iPhone and the MacBook and their respective operating systems into something similar, yet different. Although the iPad met with many favorable reactions when it first came out, few people appreciate what a significant difference it would make in the world.

The iPad immediately zoomed to the top of the charts as most peoples’ favorite new piece of technology. I doubt that any product met with more immediate and rapid acceptance than the initial iPad. Even the by then iconic iPhone paled in comparison. Almost everybody loved the iPad. Almost everyone wanted an iPad.

55. Citizenship, participation, and CMD: The case of Nigeria

Innocent Chiluwa


**Abstract**: NaijaPals and Nolitics, respectively a hosting site and a discussion forum by and for Nigerians, provide an opportunity for the citizens’ social and political participation. As a hosting website with social networking and blogging activities, NaijaPals maintains an online community, with Nolitics as a discussion forum solely dedicated to social and political debate. Members exchange information and engage in critical analysis of Nigeria’s political system. A total of 104 ‘posts’ are analyzed in the framework of Computer-Mediated Discourse Analysis (CMDA) and Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). The analysis highlights the roles of political discourse in Nolitics, mainly as social critique, with the aim of shaping political leadership and involving the citizens in political governance. Discourse in this context is viewed as discursive practice, in the form of political propaganda; anti-corruption campaigns; socio-political mobilization; and recommendations for growth — all of these mediated in written texts. The analyses also show that metaphors, directive speech acts and questioning are used as discursive strategies. [Abstract from Author]