

Winter 2008: Discrimination and Equity



During the 2007-2008 academic school year, a group of research interns conducted comprehensive literature reviews that examined the relevance and interplay of normative standards, constitutions and laws on discrimination and equity worldwide. Interns also researched the impact of laws and public policies on gender-based and racial discrimination and equity. A second team of interns developed a global database to quantitatively examine the equity of outcomes across specific domains and social bases.

Global Information Bank Team:

Kristen McNeill is an Honours student in International Development Studies, with a minor in Hispanic Language. Her interests include indigenous peoples and the ways that social and political marginalization can affect key development indicators, such as health. She has had experience working in Bolivia, Malaysia, and Kenya, and has also been involved in local fundraising and fair trade initiatives.

Alec Milne is a joint-honors student in History and International Development Studies. He has experience doing policy-oriented research in Kenya, and is particularly interested in social policy within the context of the developing world. He plans to study international and comparative law after completing his undergraduate degree.

Mina Park is in her third-year of a Bachelor of Arts and Science, doing a double major in Political Science and Biomedical Sciences, and a minor in International Development Studies. She is interested in how the intersection of governments, NGOs, and the private sector acts to shape social conditions, both internationally and locally. She has had experience working in an NGO as a volunteer at the Holy Cross Hospice in Botswana. She was involved in patient and caregiver programs and in efforts to coordinate the actions of NGOs and the government to improve service delivery for orphans and vulnerable children. After her undergraduate degree, she plans to pursue graduate studies or professional opportunities in an international setting.

Implementation and Impact Team:

Philip Duguay received a BA with Honours in History from Dalhousie University in 2005. From 2005-2006 Philip served as the Vice President of the Dalhousie Student Union and became very interested in issues of social policy while serving that organization's diverse membership. He also has a strong interest in Canadian-African affairs, having recently lived, worked and traveled in both West and East Africa. Philip is currently a first year law student at the McGill Faculty of Law.

Julie Kourakos is currently completing the third year of a joint Honours degree in International Development and History of the Americas. She is interested in the continuing interplay between political and social policy and historical processes in the Americas, especially as these relate to issues of cultural change and identification, transnational feminisms and indigenous rights. She is also passionate about ethical issues of development and the place of this discipline within global trends of neo-colonialism.

Joshua Wales is currently in his final year of a BMus in voice, minoring in Linguistics and Music History. He was worked on health and human rights-related projects with the Faraja Trust Fund in Tanzania, and is also involved in HIV/AIDS advocacy and awareness initiatives with the McGill Global AIDS Coalition.