

**Engendering security and
Social safety in a Settlement in Port
Moresby, Papua New Guinea**

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Project background

Research questions looked at issues related to **livelihoods, social safety nets,** and **social protection,**

and

how to support family while taking part in customary obligations

Definitions of social protection

- **AusAID (2012):**
Helping to protect the poor from hunger and destitution, decreasing malnutrition, contributing to human development and long-term economic growth, reducing inequality. It is also an effective crisis response mechanism
- **Zambia Fifth National Development Plan:** Protecting and promoting the livelihoods and welfare of people suffering from critical levels of poverty and deprivation and/or vulnerable to risks and shocks

Project background

- Fieldwork in 2013 in ATS Settlement, Port Moresby.
- Primary data: mixed methods to collect fieldwork ethnographic and quantitative data; autoethnographic data.
- Secondary data: maps, media reports, literature, government documents etc.

Fieldwork Method

- Consent process
- Participant recruitment – snowballing but focussing on people from one ethnic group
- Change in questionnaire and interview style
- Interview components
 1. Demographic information on households
 2. Household characteristics
 3. Incomes, employment and livelihoods
 4. Accessing land in an informal urban settlement
 5. What are the main risks or threats to livelihoods – collectively and individually?
 6. How do you respond to risks or threats to your livelihoods – collectively and individually?
 7. Engagement with kin, friends, broader Port Moresby, home, and elsewhere

Responses: What are the main challenges you face as a community and as a family/individual?

- Land (Evictions, lack of tenure)
- Housing (Expensive)
- Illness and death of family member
- Water
- Unemployment and incomes
- Access to education and health services
- **Ethnic violence and crime: Insiders and outsiders**
- Domestic violence, and violence in the intimate insider space: – not talked about in interviews but was everywhere (in conversations, audible and visible)

	Are they raskols, do they live on crime?	Outsider perceptions – influenced by media, academic and other portrayals/representations.
	Families, challenges, making a living, how violence affects them and how they respond collectively and individually	Methods. I did not set out to explore violence, crime, law and order, or family and sexual violence.
	Violence is a major cross cutting issue	Finding: Violence impacts on livelihoods, security, social safety But different forms of violence are spoken about in in vastly different ways. In Port Moresby context it is an expected but not accounted for in method
	Challenges for writing up research	How to portray? How accommodate in research given the method did not factor it in? Lessons for future research

Method for analysis and writing

- Perspectives: moral economy, political economy, moral reasoning
- Theoretical framework:
 - Development policy, urbanisation and
 - economic anthropology/human geography
 - Exchange and value
 - Livelihoods and social safety nets
 - Risk, vulnerability
 - Inequality
 - Social relationships: kinship, land, exchange and value
- Analysis: Let data lead research not theories. What did people respond?

What are the main challenges you face as a community and as a family/individual?
What do you do collectively and as families/individuals to address these challenges?

Thesis outline



CHAPTER 9: Paradoxes of Living and engendering security in a violent context.

- Family perspectives (AS OPPOSED TO raskols, gangs, police, hospital, service providers, policy).
- Families concerns for young men.
- Life stories show transformation.
- Crime and violence are gendered and socially embedded in day to day lives.
- The insider/outsider narrative means that collective (male dominated) violence plays a role in security
- Paradoxically: Collective violence performed mainly by men → engenders collective identity → engenders security. This comes at the expense of addressing domestic violence in which women are more likely to be victims.
- May explain why domestic violence appears to be normalised. Not because it is accepted but because it is subjugated by collective security.



New research: Services for family and sexual violence in urban contexts



	2/3 of women experience domestic and family and sexual violence	Outsider perspectives – influenced by media, academic and other portrayals/representations. Data Institutional data, Policy prescriptions
	Families, challenges, making a living, how violence affects them and how they respond collectively and individually	Methods: Need to think about issues like what make families resilient. What makes communities resilient
	What are the major cross cutting issue? What might be unanticipated findings? Unintended insights...	Finding Expected but not accounted for in method therefore
	Challenges for research questions and methods	High level of ethics requirements due to trauma or discomfort How to portray? How accommodate in research given the method did not factor it in? Lessons for future research Avoid romanticising or denying

What does 2/3 mean?

- Portrayals of violence
- Violent contexts: **Everyone** is affected by violence.
- Data is on women and women as “victims” or “survivors” of violence rather than also as actors.
- Relationality between people/institutions is obscured.
- What about families? Women are mothers, wives, daughters, friends, ... they are actors in their families and communities.
- Even those who might be experiencing violence are expected to help.
- Institutional statistics only tell part of the story.
- Services are over burdened.
- Need to know social support mechanisms.
- Violence is not just one incident. Long term trauma.

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