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Research Interests

Psychological & Cultural Anthropology
Transcultural Psychiatry
Qualitative Approaches to the Study of Psychopathology

Educational/Professional Experience

2000-2004	President, Foundation for Psychocultural Research
2001-2003	UCLA, Lecturer, Psychology
1992-2000	UCLA Ph.D., Department of Anthropology
1987	University of Chicago, MA, Committee on Human Development
1984	Hampshire College, BA, Anthropology & Biology

Research Interests

My research centers on the intersection of culture, personal experience and psychopathology. This work has involved both clinical experience in schools, hospitals and clinics, working with mentally ill children and adults. It also involves fieldwork experience with various Southeast Asian populations. I engaged in six months of fieldwork with a Cambodian refugee population, focusing on adjustment, acculturation and post-traumatic stress. I was a Fulbright scholar in Indonesia, where I did two separate but related research projects. One was a ten year outcome study of patients who had had an acute psychotic episode in the mid 1980's, following the hypothesis that outcome for severe mental disorders is better in the developing world. The second study funded by the WHO, was a pilot study to find cases of obsessive-compulsive disorder and Tourette's syndrome in Indonesia, to provide data for proving or disproving the Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS) hypothesis. I have recently finished a documentary film based on my research, filmed in both Java and Bali, and am finishing two others. I am also President of the Foundation for Psychocultural Research, which funds interdisciplinary research in Neuroscience, Psychiatry and Anthropology.

Recent Publications

Lemelson, R. (2004) "Traditional Healing and its Discontents: Efficacy and Traditional Therapies of Neuropsychiatric Disorders in Bali, in *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 18(1):48-76.

Lemelson, R. Suryani, L.K. (2003) "Cultural Formulation of Psychiatric Diagnoses: The Spirits, *Penyakit Ngeb* and the Social Suppression Of Memory: A Complex Clinical Case from Bali", submitted to *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry*

Lemelson, R. (2003) "Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder in Bali: The Cultural Shaping of a Neuropsychiatric Disorder" in *Transcultural Psychiatry*, Vol.40(3) (pp.377-408)

Lemelson, R. (2001) "Strange Maladies," *Psychology Today*, December 2001

Ethnographic Film

Movements and Madness: A film on the entanglements of culture and neuropsychiatric disorders

Key Words

Transcultural psychiatry, psychological anthropology