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Masculinities, Forced Migration and Violence: A time for Reflection?

(Abstract)

This paper is presented by way of commentary to a documentary the Refugee Law Project recently made entitled "Gender against Men". The paper highlights the complex interplay between conflict, displacement and marginalization. Based on personal advocacy experience, the paper attempts to make thematic linkages between the fields of forced migration, transitional justice and gender. The documentary on which the paper is based itself exposes the hidden world of men's gendered experiences of violence in the conflicts of the Great Lakes Region. The film demonstrates how male identities are under attack and how rape when used as a weapon of war affects husbands, fathers, brothers and the community.