

Curriculum Vitae

Alexander Rödlach

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Current Research Interests:

Intrigued by my own observation of misguided practices among a number of AIDS organizations, I became interested in the analysis of government and nongovernmental (NGO) health policies. Why are some health organizations more successful than others? As one expression of this interest, I am currently analyzing AIDS prevention messages disseminated by various organizations in Zimbabwe. I want to understand how diverse AIDS messages are perceived by various social groups and what factors increase their rate of acceptance.

During my research I also began to understand how harrowing political and economic conditions negatively impact public health in general and the individual's behavioral response to infectious diseases in particular - an issue often not taken into account when health programs are being implemented.

Education:

- 2005 Ph. D. in Anthropology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.
Dissertation title: ***Blaming Others for HIV/AIDS in an Urban Township in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe: Witchcraft Beliefs and Sorcery Suspicions.***
- 2005 Certificate in African Studies, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.
- 2000 M. A. in Anthropology, Catholic University, Washington, DC.
Thesis-paper title: ***Religious Beliefs at the Service of Nationalist Politics in Joshua Nkomo's Writings.***
- 1990 Magister der Theologie (M. A. in Theology), Philosophisch-theologische Hochschule, Mödling, Austria.
Thesis title: ***Der Weg der Kirche Tansanias zu den Kleinen Christlichen Gemeinschaften und deren Spezifische Prägung durch den Tansanischen Sozialismus.***
- 1990 Baccalaureatus Theologiae (M. A. in Theology – no thesis requirement), Pontificia Università Urbaniana, Rome, Italy.

Membership in Professional Organizations:

- American Anthropological Association
- AIDS and Anthropology Research Group
- Anthropos International
- European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA)
- Sacral Communication and Healing Network of the EASA
- Society for Applied Anthropology
- Society for Medical Anthropology

Appointments:

- 2007 – : Assistant professor in anthropology at Creighton University with a secondary appointment as assistant professor in psychiatry at Creighton University Medical School.
- 2006 – 2007: Member of the editorial team of *Anthropos*
Anthropos Institute
Arnold Janssen Str. 20, D-53754 Sankt Augustin, Germany
- 2006 – 2007: Lector for cultural anthropology
Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule
Arnold Janssen Str. 30, D-53754 Sankt Augustin, Germany

Languages:

- German: mother tongue
- English: fluent in reading, writing, and speaking
- Ndebele (Zimbabwean Bantu language): fluent in reading, writing, and speaking
- French: basic knowledge in reading, writing, and speaking
- Latin: basic knowledge of reading

Recent Awards and Honors:

- 2009 Extended Faculty Immersion, Creighton University, Omaha
- 2008 Selected to participate in the Undergraduate Curriculum Development Institute, Crystal City
- 2005 OBT Graduate Travel Award, OBT Book Store - Gainesville
- 2004 European Union Conference Grant of the European Association of Social Anthropologists
- 2004 John Goggin Research Award, Department of Anthropology, University of Florida
- 2004 Conference Travel Grant of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Florida
- 2003 Research Associate, Department of Sociology, University of Zimbabwe
- 2003 Doctoral Dissertation Research Award, National Science Foundation
- 2001 David Niddrie Award, Center for African Studies, University of Florida
- 2001 Certificate of Achievement, International Center, University of Florida

Publications:

Books:

Rödlach, A. (2006). *Witches, Westerners, and HIV: AIDS and Cultures of Blame in Africa*. Walnut Creek: Left Coast Press.

Articles:

Rödlach, A. (2007). Kulturelle Identität: Zwischen Beharren und Wandel. Ethnologische Perspektiven. In Mensen, Bernhard (Hg.). *Identität und Integration. Akademie Völker und Kulturen*. Band 29. Nettetal: Steyler Verlag. Pp. 206-229.

Rödlach, A. (2007). Apocalypse Now – Interpretations of HIV/AIDS in an Urban Township in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. In Lüse, Agita and Imre Lázár (eds.). *Cosmologies of Suffering*. Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. Pp. 206-229

Rödlach, A. (2007). Gemeinnützige Gesellschaften und die Entwicklung von Konspirationstheorien in der Dritten Welt. *GGRG* (01):24-35.

Rödlach, A. (2005). Condom Beliefs in Zimbabwe. *AIDS and Anthropology Bulletin* (17)1: 3-5.

Rödlach, A. (2004). Women, Dogs, and Sex: How to Make Sense of Statements on HIV/AIDS in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. *Aids and Anthropology Bulletin* (16)1: 4-7.

Rödlach, A. (2001). Religious Beliefs at the Service of Nationalist Politics in Joshua Nkomo's Writings. *Verbum* (42)1: 49-79.

Reviews:

Rödlach, A. (2007). Review of: Westerlund, David (2006). "African Indigenous Religions and Disease Causation: From Spiritual Beings to Living Humans. Studies of Religion in Africa. Vol. 28." Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers. (*Anthropos* 102[1]).

Rödlach, A. (2006). Review of: Schoormann, Matthias (2005). „Sozialer und religiöser Wandel in Afrika: Die Tonga in Zimbabwe“. Kulturelle Identität und politische Selbstbestimmung in der Weltgesellschaft. Vol. 11. Lit Verlag: Münster (*Anthropos* 101[2]: 651-652).

Rödlach, A. (2006). Review of: Dilger, Hansjörg (2005). „Leben mit AIDS: Krankheit, Tod und soziale Beziehungen in Afrika“. Campus Verlag: Frankfurt am Main (*Anthropos* 101[1]: 263-264).

Rödlach, A. (2005). Review of: Philipus Tule (2004). "Longing for the House of God, Dwelling in the House of the Ancestors: Local Belief, Christianity, and Islam among the Keo of Central Flores." Studia Instituti Anthropos Vol. 50. Fribourg: Academic Press (*Verbum* 46[3]: 361-364).

Rödlach, A. (2005). Review of: Kistner, Ulrike (2003). "Commissioning and Contesting Post-Apartheid's Human Rights: HIV/AIDS - Racism - Truth and Reconciliation." African Connections in Post-Colonial Theory and Literatures Series Vol. 2. Lit Verlag. Münster (*Anthropos* 100[2]:620-622).

Rödlach, A. (2004). Review of: Wijzen, Frans and Peter Nissen (2002). "Mission is a Must: Intercultural Theology and the Mission of the Church." Church and Theology in Context Series Vol. 40. Nijmegen Institute for Missiology. Amsterdam: Editions Rodopi (*Verbum* 45[1]: 101-104).

Rödlach, A. (2002). Review of: Lecleir, Stefaan (2002). „Simeon Francois Berneux: Missionsbischof and Märtyrer in Korea". Köln: Böhlau Verlag (*Verbum* 43[1]: 135-138).

Rödlach, A. (2002). Review of: Ott, Martin (2002). "African Theology in Images." Kachere Monograph Vol. 12. Blantyre: CLAIM (*Verbum* 43[1]: 129-133).

Rödlach, A. (2001). Review of: Onwubiko, Oliver Alozie (2001). "Missionary Ecclesiology: An Introduction." Enugu: Snaap Press (*Verbum* 42[2]: 247-248).

Short pieces:

Rödlach, A. (2009). Maiandacht in Afrika. Michaelskalender 130:58.

Rödlach, A. (2008). Ein Schwein auf zwei Beinen. Cartoon. Pico 5(2008):34-35.

Rödlach, A. (2008). 3 Daily Reflections. University Ministry, Creighton University.

Rödlach, A. (2008). Gott schenkt Leben durch Regen. Michaelskalender 129:98

Rödlach, A. (2003). Studying the AIDS Epidemic in Zimbabwe. *Word Aflame* 6: 11.

Recent Invited Presentations:

- 2008 Panelist in the Annual Health Disparities Seminar – Focus on HIV/AIDS (Creighton University – April).
- 2008 Die HIV/AIDS Pandemie im Spiegel von einheimischen Künstlern in Zimbabwe (Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms- Universität, Bonn – June).
- 2007 Ethnic Identity and National Integration (Akademie Völker u. Kulturen – Februar)
- 2006 Traditionelle Religionen in Afrika (Bad Honeff – November).
- 2006 Responding to the AIDS disaster in southern Africa (Mainz – October).
- 2006 Hexen, Hunde, oder Huren: Verbreitete Ansichten über den Ursprung von AIDS im südlichen Afrika (St. Augustin – June).

Recent Presentations:

- 2008 AIDS in Africa: Explaining, Interpreting, and Fighting the Epidemic through Art (Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE).
- 2008 Home-Based Care for AIDS Sufferers in Zimbabwe – Patient Dumping or Successful Integration of Volunteers into the Health Care System (Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA).
- 2008 No Help for Healing at Home – AIDS, Emigration, and the Search for Healing (Biannual Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists, Ljubljana, Slovenia).
- 2008 AIDS is in the Food: Disease, Nutrition, and Social Change in Zimbabwe (Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Memphis, TN).
- 2007 Zimbabwean Women's Desires for Social and Cultural Equality and Its Association with Reducing Sexual Behavior Associated with a High Risk for an HIV-Infection (Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC).
- 2007 Preventing HIV Infection in Zimbabwe: Local Controversies and Creative Adaptations (Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Tampa, FL).
- 2006 Global Politics and the Attribution of Meaning to Diseases: Cold War Rhetoric and Zimbabwean AIDS Conspiracy Theories (Biennial Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists, Bristol, Britain).
- 2006 The "ABC"-Approach for Preventing HIV-Infection: Local Controversies and Popular Adaptations in Zimbabwe (Conference of the African Studies Association in Germany, Frankfurt am Main, Germany).
- 2005 Unfaithful Husbands, Traditional Potions, and HIV/AIDS in Zimbabwe (Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Santa Fe).
- 2004 Condom Beliefs in Zimbabwe (Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Dallas, TX).
- 2004 Interpreting the AIDS Epidemic and Prescribing Remedies: The Apocalyptic Metaphor among Urban Zimbabweans in Southern Zimbabwe (Biannual Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists, Vienna, Austria).