

# Simona Simona

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## Research Interests and Competences

Population Health; Global Health; Gender-Based Violence; Multilevel Modelling; Applied Bayesian Modelling; Agent-Based Modelling; Social Science Theory

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## Education

### **Ph.D. in Sociology, 2019, expected**

University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Thesis: *Structural Violence and (In)equities in Maternal Healthcare in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Bayesian Multi-level Analysis*

### **Master of Research (MRes) Sociology and Research Methods, 2013**

University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Thesis: *An Analysis of factors associated with sexual violence against women in Zambia.*

### **Bachelor of Arts (BA) Sociology with Psychology, 2007**

University of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia

Research report: *A micro-level analysis of heterosexual rape in Zambia: the case of Lusaka District.*

## Related Professional Training/Qualifications

**Multilevel Modelling and Missing data with MLwiN and Stat JR**, Centre for Multilevel Modelling, University of Bristol, January, 2019.

**Introduction to Agent-Based Modelling**, Santa Fe Institute, United States [Certificate], 2018

**Agent-Based Modelling for Social Sciences Summer School**, University of Brescia, Italy, 2018

**Application of Big Data in the Social Sciences**, NCRM, University of Cardiff, 2018

**Multilevel modelling**, ICPSR Summer Program, University of Glasgow, 2017

**Introduction to scientific computing with Python**, Urban Big Centre, University of Glasgow, 2017

**Applied Bayesian Modelling**, ICPSR Summer Program, University of Michigan, United States, 2017

**Applied Multilevel Modelling**, ICPSR, Summer Program, University of Michigan, United States, 2017

**Combining Data from Multiple Administrative and Survey Sources for Statistical Purposes**, University of Southampton, 2017

**Introduction to Python Programming**, University of Glasgow, 2017

**Quantitative data analysis using the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data**, Kampala, Uganda,

March, 2015.

**Qualitative data analysis: Theory and practice**, Stellenbosch University, South Africa, 2015

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## Teaching

**Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA)**, University of Glasgow, School of Social and Political Sciences, 2018/19.

I am currently teaching in the following courses:

- Research Design (Postgraduate)
- Quantitative Research Methods in Social Sciences (Honours)
- Quantitative Methods I and II (Undergraduate)
- Computing with R (Undergraduate)

**Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA)**, University of Glasgow, School of Social and Political Sciences, 2017/18.

I participated in teaching the following courses:

- Research Design (Postgraduate)
- Quantitative Data Analysis (Postgraduate)
- Quantitative Research Methods in Social Sciences (Honours)
- Quantitative Methods I and II (Undergraduate)
- Computing with R (Undergraduate and Postgraduate)

**Lecturer in Sociology and Social Science Statistics**, University of Zambia, Department of Social Work and Sociology, September 2013 to September 2016

**Part-time Lecturer in Medical Sociology**, Cavendish University Zambia, School of Medicine, August 2015 to August 2016

**Part-time Lecturer in Sociological Theory**, National Institute of Public Administration, Zambia, April 2014 to April 2015

**Part-time Lecturer in Medical Sociology**, Lusaka Apex Medical University, Zambia, School of Medicine, January 2014 to June 2015

**Staff Development Fellow, University of Zambia**, Department of Social Development Studies, January 2008 to September, 2012

**Facilitator**, the Demographic and Health Survey fellow's workshop, Dar es salaam, Tanzania. Sponsored by USAID and ICF International, 27th April, 2016 to 6th May, 2016

**Facilitator**, the Demographic and Health Survey fellow's workshop in quantitative data analysis and DHS data use, Pretoria, South Africa. Sponsored by USAID and ICF International, March, 2016.

**Facilitator**, Qualitative data analysis using NVivo short course organised by the University of Zambia, Department of Social Development Studies, August, 2015

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## Research Projects

Structural Violence and (In)equities in Maternal Healthcare in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Bayesian Multilevel Analysis (October, 2016 to November, 2019). PhD Research

Contested Endings: The nature of Brought in Dead (BID) Patients at Zambia's University Teaching Hospital (UTH) (May 2016 to October, 2016). Role: *Co-Principal Investigator*

Boys to Men: A study of males aged between 15 and 21. The study examines the phenomena of Gender based violence in relation to boys and young men in Zambia. It was commissioned by the Ministry of Gender, Zambia and conducted by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) AND the University of Zambia (June to August 2016). Role: *Investigator*

Factors Related to Children's Placement in Catholic-affiliated Residential Care Facilities in Zambia Project. The study is sponsored by the Catholic Relief Services. (January to July, 2016). Role: *Data analysis using NVivo*

Intimate partner violence (IPV) in Zambia: Socio-demographic determinants and Use of Maternal Health Care. Sponsored by USAID through ICF International (February to September, 2015). Role: *Team Leader*

Stressful Life Events, Mobility and HIV Risk Behaviour among truck drivers in three towns along the Copperbelt in Zambia: A qualitative study. This study is in collaboration with school of social work Columbia University (February 2014 to August, 2015).

Role: *Data analyst*, Principal investigator: Lynn Michalopoulos (Columbia University)

Trauma, Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and HIV risk among female fish traders in Kafue Wetlands. This is in collaboration with Columbia University, School of Social Work (January 2014 to June, 2015). Role: *Data analyst*. Principal investigator: Lynn Michalopoulos, Columbia University

Scaling up demand for HIV/AIDS Prevention Services and Expanded Care and Support through Churches in Zambia. The study was sponsored by United States Aid for International Development (USAID) (2011). Role: *Research assistant*

Socio-cultural factors influencing uptake of voluntary testing and counseling (VCT), antiretroviral therapy services and adherence to ART, a collaboration between the University of Zambia and University of Basel (2010). Role: *Research assistant*

An evaluation study of TB programme in Health Institutions and faith based organizations throughout the country. The study was commissioned by the Churches Health Association of Zambia (CHAZ) (2009). Role: *Research assistant*

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## Awards and Fellowships

University of Glasgow Principal's Early Career Mobility Scheme award for visiting scholarship at the Institute of Health and Social Policy, McGill University, 2018/19

University of Glasgow Q-Step PhD scholarship in Sociology specialising in Quantitative social science methods (September, 2016 to October, 2019)

University of Hull PhD scholarship in Sociology and Social Anthropology (September, 2016 to 2019) [declined]

Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) Fellowship, Sponsored by United States Aid for International Development (USAID) through ICF International, for purposes of training in the use of Demographic and Health Survey datasets (February to September, 2015)

The Commonwealth Commission Scholarship, to undertake an MRes in Sociology and Research Methods at the University of Glasgow, United Kingdom (September, 2012 to September, 2013)

University of Witwatersrand (South Africa) merit scholarship to undertake a Master of Arts degree in Sociology (January 2011) (declined)

Staff Development Fellowship, University of Zambia ? trainee lecturer in the Department of Social Development Studies (August 2009 to August 2013)

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## Conferences and Presentations

Researching Health Inequalities using Multilevel Models. Sociology Conference, University of Glasgow, May, 2017

Intimate Partner violence and Maternal Healthcare in Zambia, Workshop for the Demographic and Health Survey programme, South Africa, March, 2016

Trauma, Substance Use and HIV Risk Behaviour among Female Fish Traders from the Kafue Flatlands in Zambia, [with Lynne Michalopoulos], International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies annual meeting, November 2015.

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## Software and Programming

R, Python, SPSS, STATA, MLwiN, Stat JR, NetLogo, ATLAS.ti, NVivo and  $\text{\LaTeX}$ / R Markdown

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## Publications

1. **Simona, S** and Shadrack Dare. 2019. Researching the Influence of Structural Factors on Maternal Healthcare Utilisation in sub-Saharan Africa: A systematic review of Multilevel Models [submitted]
2. **Simona, S.**, Muchindu, M and Ntalasha, H. 2018. Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in Zambia: Socioeconomic Determinants and Association with Use of Maternal Healthcare in Zambia. *International Journal*

*of Social Science Studies*, 6(6): 42-54.

3. Ntalasha, H., **Simona, J. S.**, Moyo, F et al. 2018. An assessment of Quality Assurance in HIV and AIDS-Related Services in Chivuna Rural Health Facility of Southern Zambia. *World Journal of AIDS*, 8: 37-53.
  4. Michalopolous, L., Baca-Atlas, S., **Simona J. S.**, Jiwatram-Negron, T., Ncube, A and Chery, M. B. 2017. "Life at the River is a Living Hell": Qualitative study of trauma, mental health, substance use and HIV risk behaviour among female fish traders from the Kafue Flatlands in Zambia. *BMC Women's Health*, 17:15.
  5. Michalopolous, L., Nomagogu, N., **Simona J. S.**, Kansankala, B., Sinkala, E and Raidoo, J. 2016. A Qualitative study of migrant-related stressors, Psychological outcomes and HIV risk behaviour among truck drivers in Zambia. *African Journal of AIDS Research*, 15(13): 219-226.
  6. **Simona, J. S.**, Muchindu, M and Ntalasha, H. 2015. Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in Zambia: Socioeconomic Determinants and Association with Use of Maternal Healthcare in Zambia. ICF International Working paper 121. Available [here](#)
  7. Ntalasha, H., Malungo, J. R. S., Merten, S., **Simona J. S.** 2015. Influence of food supplements on testing for HIV and AIDS and adhering to treatment in a resource poor rural setting: A case of Chivuna, Southern Zambia. *Science Journal of Public Health*, 3(3): 314-320.
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## Referees

### **Prof. Alastair Leyland**

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