

Curriculum Vitae

Linda Theron

2012

Full names: Linda Carol Theron

Date of birth: 1968-09-29

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Vanderbijlpark, South Africa, 1900

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Current organization: North-West University
(Faculty of Humanities, Vaal Triangle Campus)

Position: Professor
School of Education Sciences

Languages spoken/written: English (fluent)
Afrikaans (fluent)
German (semi-fluent)

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Qualifications:

- Doctor of Education (Educational Psychology); UNISA, 2000
Thesis title: *Resilience Therapy: a group intervention program to promote the psychological wellness of adolescents at risk*
- Masters in Education (Educational Psychology; with distinction); UNISA, 1998
Dissertation title: *An educational-psychological perspective of the personal attributes which serve to anchor resilience*
- Bachelor of Education Honours (with distinction); UNISA, 1995
- Higher Diploma in Education (with distinction); University of the Witwatersrand, 1990
- Bachelor of Arts; University of the Witwatersrand, 1989

Academic Employment History:

- Professor, School of Education Sciences, Faculty of Humanities, North-West University, Vaal Triangle Campus.
January 2011 –
- Associate Professor, School of Education Sciences, Faculty of Humanities, North-West University, Vaal Triangle Campus.
January 2008 – December 2010
- Senior Lecturer, School of Educational Sciences, North-West University, Vaal Triangle Campus.
January 2002 – December 2007
- Lecturer, School of Educational Sciences, North-West University, Vaal Triangle Campus.
July 2000 – December 2001

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS

- Practising Psychologist (Category: Educational)
Registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (since 2000)
Registration number: PS 0063622
- Registered with South African Council of Educators (SACE)
Registration number: 77074

MEMBERSHIPS

Associations

- Member of Education Association of South Africa
- Member of Psychological Association of South Africa (PsySSA) (Reg. number: THE010); member of Educational Psychology (PsySSA Division) and member of Division of Research and Methodology (PsySSA Division)
- Member of European Association for Research on the Education of Adults
- Member of International Visual Sociology Association

University bodies

- Executive Committee of PsySSA Division of Research and Methodology, 2006-2008
- VTC Research Committee (North-West University) (2001 – current)
- Executive Research Committee, School of Educational Sciences (2008-current)
- VTC Senate Committee (current)

Publications

- **Chapters in Books**

- Theron, L. C.**, & Malindi, M. J. (2012). Conducting qualitative research: Practical guidelines on fieldwork. In J. G. Maree (Ed.), *Complete your thesis or dissertation successfully: Practical guidelines* (pp.96-108). Cape Town, South Africa: *Juta*.
- Elias, M. J., & **Theron, L. C.** (2012). Linking purpose and ethics in thesis writing: South African illustrations of an international perspective In J. G. Maree (Ed.), *Complete your thesis or dissertation successfully: Practical guidelines* (pp.145-160). Cape Town, South Africa: *Juta*.
- Theron, L. C.**, & Engelbrecht, P. (2012). Caring teachers: teacher-youth transactions to promote resilience. In Ungar, M. (Ed.), *The social ecology of resilience: Culture, context, resources and meaning* (pp. 265-280). New York, NY: Springer.
- Theron, L. C.**, Mitchell, C., & Stuart, J. (2011). A positive, African ethical approach to drawings as research method. In L. C. Theron, C. Mitchell, J. Stuart, & A. Smith (Eds.), *Picturing research: Drawings as visual methodology* (pp. 49-62). Rotterdam: Sense Publishers.
- Cameron, C. A., & **Theron, L. C.** (2011). With pictures and words I can show you: cartoons portray resilient migrant teenagers' journeys. In L. C. Theron, C. Mitchell, J. Stuart, & A. Smith (Eds.), *Picturing research: Drawings as visual methodology* (pp.205-218). Rotterdam: Sense Publishers.
- Malindi, M. J., & **Theron, L. C.** (2011). Drawing on strengths: images of ecological contributions to street child resilience. In L. C. Theron, C. Mitchell, J. Stuart, & A. Smith (Eds.), *Picturing research: Drawings as visual methodology* (pp. 105-118). Rotterdam: Sense Publishers.
- Mitchell, C. **Theron, L. C.**, Stuart, J., Smith, A., & Campbell, Z. (2011). Drawings as research method. L. C. Theron, C. Mitchell, J. Stuart, & A. Smith (Eds.), *Picturing research: Drawings as visual methodology* (pp. 19-36). Rotterdam: Sense Publishers.
- Mitchell, C. **Theron, L. C.**, Stuart, J., & Smith, A. (2011). Picturing research: An introduction. In L. C. Theron, C. Mitchell, J. Stuart, & A. Smith (Eds.), *Picturing research: Drawings as visual methodology* (pp. 1-16). Rotterdam: Sense Publishers.
- Theron, L.C.** (2009). Empowering children and adolescents with ADHD to be resilient. In A. Decaires-Wagner & H. Picton (Eds.), *Teaching and ADHD in the Southern African classroom* (pp. 178-184). Northlands: Macmillan.
- Theron, L. C.** (2008). Resilience as process: A group intervention program for adolescents with learning difficulties. In L. Liebenberg & M. Ungar (Eds.), *Resilience in Action: Working with youth across cultures and contexts* (pp. 215-237). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Theron, L. C.** (2008). Resilient coping strategies. In L. Wood (Ed.). *Dealing with HIV/AIDS in the classroom* (pp. 88-107). Cape Town: *Juta*.
- Theron, L. C.** (2008). Promoting responsible decision making and problem-solving. In L. Wood (Ed.), *Dealing with HIV/AIDS in the classroom* (pp. 199-220). Cape Town: *Juta*.
- Theron, L. C.**, & Van der Merwe, M. P. (2006). Creating schools that invite wellness: a study of educator perceptions in previously disadvantaged schools in South Africa. In J. Novak, W. Rocca, & A. DeBiase (Eds.), *Creating inviting schools* (pp. 205-222). San Francisco: Caddo Gap Publishing.

- **Chapters in press**

Theron, L. C. (forthcoming). Teacher pathways to resilience: Interpretations of teacher adjustment to HIV&AIDS-related challenges. In M. P. Wissing (Ed.), *Wellbeing research in South Africa*. New York, NY: Springer.

Theron, L. C. (forthcoming). Pathways to South African youth resilience: commonplace, contextually and culturally relevant collaborations, and caveats. In F. E. Gouws (Ed). *Adolescence*. Pretoria, South Africa: Heinemann.

Theron, L. C. (forthcoming). Assessing school readiness. Pathways to assessment resilience. In S. Laher & K. Cockcroft (Eds.), *Psychological assessment in South Africa: Research and applications (2000-2010)*. Johannesburg: WITS press.

Theron, L. C. (forthcoming). Ethics in writing articles. In J. G. Maree (Ed.), *First steps in article writing*. Cape Town: Juta.

- **Edited book**

Theron, L. C., Mitchell, C., Stuart, J., & Smith, A. (Eds.). (2011). *Picturing research: Drawings as visual methodology*. Rotterdam: Sense Publishers.

- **Articles in indexed journals**

Published and accepted articles

Cameron, C. A., **Theron, L. C.**, Tapanya, S., Li, C., Ungar, M., & Liebenberg, L. (In press). Visual perspectives on majority world adolescent thriving. *Journal of Research on Adolescence*. [Impact: 1.493]

Wood, L., **Theron, L. C.**, & Mayaba, N. (In press). Read me to resilience! Exploring the use of cultural stories to boost the positive adjustment of children orphaned by AIDS *African Journal of Aids Research*. [Impact: 0.425]

Fourie, C. L., & **Theron, L. C.** (2012). Resilience in the face of Fragile X Syndrome: a single female case study. *Qualitative Health Research* [Impact: 2.264]

Theron, L. C., Theron, A. M. C., & Malindi, M. J. (2012). Towards an African definition of resilience: A rural South African community's view of resilient Basotho youth. *Journal of Black Psychology*, doi: 10.1177/0095798412454675

Theron, L. C. (2012). Resilience research with South African youth: caveats and ethical complexities. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 42, 333-345. [Impact: 0.49]

Theron, L. C., & Donald, D. R. (2012). Educational psychology and resilience in developing contexts: A rejoinder to Toland and Carrigan *School Psychology International*. doi: 10.1177/0143034311425579. [Impact: 0.716]

Wood, L., Ntoate, G., & **Theron, L. C.** (2012). Supporting Lesotho teachers to develop resilience in the face of the HIV and AIDS pandemic. *Teaching and Teacher Education*, 28, 428-439. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.tate.2011.11.009>. [Impact: 1.124]

Wood, L., **Theron, L. C.**, & Mayaba, N. (2012). Collaborative Partnerships to Increase Resiliency among Aids-Orphans: Some Unforeseen Challenges and Caveats. *Africa Education Review*, 9, 124-141.

Odendaal, I., Brink, M., & **Theron, L. C.** (2011). Rethinking Rorschach interpretation: An exploration of resilient Black South African adolescents' personal constructions using the Rorschach Comprehensive System. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 41, 528-539. [Impact: 0.386]

- L'Etang, S., & **Theron, L. C.** (2011). A critical reflection on the participatory action process involved in the development of a Cognitive-behavioural-based Counselling Intervention Programme for youth living with HIV/AIDS in a rural South African town. *Action Research Journal*. doi: 10.1177/1476750311414740
- Theron, L. C.**, Cameron, C. A., Didkowsky, N., Lau, C., Liebenberg, L., & Ungar, M. (2011). A 'day in the lives' of four resilient youths: A study of cultural roots of resilience. *Youth & Society*, 43(3) 799–818. doi:10.1177/0044118X11402853 [Impact: 1.058]
- Ungar, M., **Theron, L. C.**, & Didkowsky, N. (2011). Adolescents' precocious and developmentally appropriate contributions to their families' well-being and resilience in five countries. *Family Relations*, 60(2), 231-246. 10.1111/j.1741-3729.2010.00645.x [Impact: 1.216]
- Delport, C. S. L., Strydom, H., **Theron, L. C.**, & Geyer, S. (2011). Voices of HIV- and Aids-affected educators: how they are psychosocially affected and how REds enabled them towards resilience. *AIDS Care*, 23, 121-126. [Impact: 1.593]
- Theron, L. C.**, Geyer, S., Strydom, H., & Delport, C. S. L. (2010). Visual methodology to build a resilient 'communitas'. *Education as Change*, 14(S1), 85-100. [Impact: 0.15]
- Theron, L. C.**, & Theron, A. M. C. (2010). A critical review of studies of South African youth resilience, 1990-2008. *South African Journal of Science*, 106(7/8). Available <http://www.sajs.co.za>
- Malindi, M. J., & **Theron, L. C.** (2010). The hidden resilience of street youth. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 40, 318-326. [Impact: 0.386]
- Theron, L. C.**, & Malindi, M. J. (2010). Resilient street youth: A qualitative South African study. *Journal of Youth Studies*, 13, 717-736. doi:10.1080/13676261003801796 [Impact: 0.780]
- Theron, L. C.**, & Dunn, N. (2010). Enabling white, Afrikaans-speaking adolescents towards post-divorce resilience: implications for educators. *South African Journal of Education*, 30, 231-244. [Impact: 0.63]
- Theron, L. C.** (2009). Educator voices on support needed to cope with the HIV/Aids epidemic. *African Journal of Aids Research*, 8, 231-242. [Impact: 0.425]
- Theron, L. C.**, Mabitsela, M., & Esterhuizen, S. M. (2009). "REds empowered me. I am resilient. Maybe I will bend, but I will not break." The piloting of Resilient Educators (REds): An intervention program to empower educators affected by the HIV and AIDS pandemic. *Journal of Education*, 46, 127-158.
- Theron, L. C.**, & Gilgun, J. F. (2009). Strangers, patients, monsters, jailers, and children: How South African caregivers view their partners with manganese poisoning. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 39, 220-230.
- Theron, L. C.**, Geyer, S., Strydom, H., & Delport, C. S. L. (2008). The roots of REds: a rationale for the support of educators affected by the HIV and Aids pandemic. *Health SA Gesondheid*, 13(4), 77-88.
- Theron, L. C.** (2008). "I have undergone some metamorphosis!" The impact of REds on South African educators affected by the HIV/Aids pandemic. A pilot study. *Journal of Psychology in Africa*, 18, 29-40. [Impact: 0.230]
- Theron, L. C.** (2008). The *Batsha*¹-Life Orientation study - An appraisal by Grade 9 learners living in townships. *Education as Change*, 12(1), 45-65.
- Nel, M., & **Theron, L. C.** (2008). Critique of a language enrichment programme for Grade 4 ESL learners with limited English proficiency. *South African Journal of Education*, 28(2), 203-219.
- Theron, L. C.** (2007). Uphenyo ngokwazi kwentsha yasemalokishini ukumelana nesimo esinzima: a South African study of resilience among township youth. *Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics of North America*, 2007, 16(2), 357-375. doi:10.1016/j.chc.2006.12.005 [Impact: 4.091]

¹ Batsha is a Sesotho word for youth

Theron, L. C. (2007). The health status of Gauteng and Free State educators affected by the HIV and AIDS pandemic – an introductory qualitative study. *African Journal of Aids Research*, 6(2), 175-186.

Theron, L. C. (2006). Critique of an intervention programme to promote resilience among learners with specific learning difficulties. *South African Journal of Education*, 26(2), 199-214.

Theron, L. C., & Dalzell, C. (2006). The specific Life Orientation needs of Grade 9 learners in the Vaal Triangle region. *South African Journal of Education*, 26(3), 397-412.

Theron, L. C., & Dunn, N. (2006). Coping strategies for adolescent birthmothers who return to school following adoption. *South African Journal of Education*, 26(4), 491-500.

Theron, L. C. (2005). Educator perception of educators' and learners' HIV status with a view to wellness promotion. *South African Journal of Education*. 2005, 25, 56-60.

Theron, L. C., & Nel, M. (2005). The needs and perceptions of South African Grade 4 educators teaching English Second Language (ESL) learners. *Africa Education Review*, 2, 221-241.

Theron, L. C. (2004). The role of personal protective factors in anchoring psychological resilience in adolescents with learning difficulty. *South African Journal of Education*, 24, 317-321.

• **Articles in non-indexed, peer-reviewed journals**

Cameron, C. A., Theron, L. C., Ungar, M., & Liebenberg, L. (In press). Adapting visual methodologies to identify youth protective processes in negotiating resilience across cultures and contexts. *Australian Community Psychologist* (Special resilience edition), 23(2): 68-84.

• **Research reports**

A complete list is available on request

• **Inaugural lecture**

Theron, L.C. (2011) Vulnerable, but invincible? Ecosystemic pathways to South African youths' resilience. Potchefstroom: NWU.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- **Keynote / invited papers**

Theron, L. C. (2011, April). South African youth are not wimps. Keynote presentation at the SA Positive Social Sciences Symposium 2011: Optimising Individual, Social and Institutional Potential, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa.

Theron, L. C. (2011, September). Positive adaptation to poverty: Black South students' tales of resilience. Third international conference on Coping with stress: Resilience and engagement, 18-20 September, Pretoria, South Africa.

Theron, L.C. (2010) Bouncing back! How parents, peers and professionals enable young people towards resilience. Attention Deficit & Hyperactivity Support Group of Southern Africa (ADHASA) Regional Conference, Meyerton, South Africa.

Theron, L. C. (2005): Human beings are not wimps, even in the face of ADHD! Attention Deficit & Hyperactivity Support Group of Southern Africa (ADHASA) Annual Conference. Johannesburg, South Africa.

- **International conferences**

19 papers presented at international conferences, 2005-2012; a complete list is available on request.

- **National**

19 papers presented at national conferences, 2004-2012; a complete list is available on request.

RESEARCH GRANTS

- Recipient of National Research Foundation (NRF) Thutuka Grant, 2005-2010 (R671 000.00)
Research focus: Resilience-focused intervention with educators affected by the HIV pandemic
- Recipient of SANPAD Grant, 2009-2011 (R600 000)
Research focus: Resilience-focused intervention among children who are living in communities challenged by AIDS
Recipient of NRF travel grant 2005, 2006, 2008
- Principal co-investigator in Pathways to Resilience Project: recipient of South African funding from IDRC (Canadian\$: 333 000.00, 2009-2013)

RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

- **International research collaboration**

- South African principal-investigator in ICURA/IDRC-funded *Pathways to Resilience* (principal investigator: Michael Ungar, Dalhousie University Canada; other research sites: Columbia, China and Canada, 2009-2013)
- South African investigator in *Negotiating Resilience: Protective Processes of Children in Transition across Cultures and Contexts* (principal investigator: Michael Ungar, Dalhousie University Canada; other research sites: India, America, China and Thailand; 2007-2010)

- **National research collaboration**

A complete list is available on request.

STUDENT SUPERVISION

- **Completed students**

Ten completed doctoral students (2001-2011)

Sixteen completed masters students (2003-2012)

(A complete list of completed and current students is available on request)

RESEARCH AWARDS/RECOGNITION

- Chairperson, Education Association of South Africa, 2011
- Incoming chairperson, Education Association of South Africa, 2010
- Recipient of Education Association of South Africa Medal of Honour: Young Researcher 2009
- Most productive researcher, Vaal Triangle Campus, NWU, 2009, 2010, 2011
- Honorary membership award: Golden Key, 2009
- Recipient of Anglo American's Travel Grant (Anglo American Chairman's Fund Educational Trust), April 2002
- Recipient of UNISA's Alma Mater Scholarship for Doctoral studies (based on academic merit) -2000
- Recipient of UNISA's Master's exhibition, based on academic merit – 1995-1997
- NRF rating (C2) – January 2011

RESEARCH-RELATED SERVICE

- **External examiner**
 - External examiner of 50+ masters and doctoral theses from 2001 – 2012 (national and international)
- **Editorial board**
 - Associate editor, SAJP, 2011-2013
 - Associate editor, SAJE, 2012-2016
 - Editorial board, Education Research as Social Change
 - Editorial board, Journal of Psychology in Africa
- **Office in national associations**
 - Executive Committee of EASA (2010-2013)
 - Chair of EASA (2011)
 - Executive Committee, Educational Psychology Division, PsySSA (2011-)
- **Workshops / invited addresses (professional and community-focused)**

A complete list is available on request (35 appearances)
- **Reviewer**

Scholarly journal articles; books; grant applications; NRF rating applications (National and international, 2005-2012; a complete list is available on request).
- **Conference organization**
 - EASA 2010 Conference Committee
 - South African Basic Education Conference, 2011
 - International Congress of Psychology, 2012 conference: Co-Chair of Cognitive Division