

ENVISAGER L'ÉQUITÉ ET L'INTÉGRITÉ DANS L'ENSEIGNEMENT DU CIRQUE

CONSIDERING EQUITY AND INTEGRITY IN CIRCUS EDUCATION

BIENNALE
INTERNATIONALE
DES ARTS
DU CIRQUE

BIAC

RENCONTRES
PROFESSIONNELLES

DU 24 AU 29 JANVIER 2023

PROFESSIONAL FORUM

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En partenariat avec / In partnership with

FEDEC

Modératrice / Moderator

Isabel Joly

Intervenant-es / Participants

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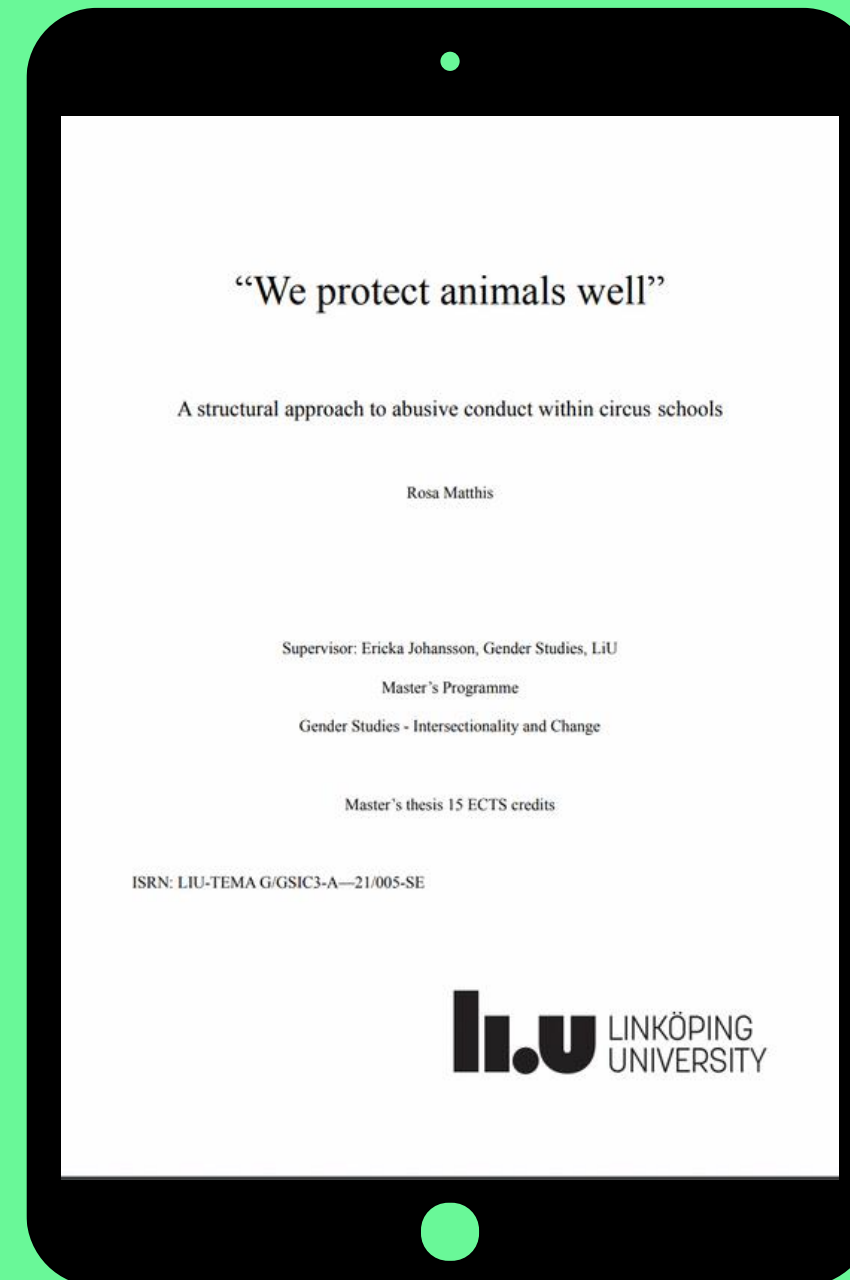
“we protect animals well”

A structural approach to abusive conduct within circus schools

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**speak
OUT**
together for a safer circus

Definition of abusive conduct

Any physical, verbal or emotional act that treats a person or group **less favorably if they are presumed to have a certain, distinctive, characteristic or difference.**

It can be:

- discrimination,
- moral or sexual harassment,
- abuse of power,
- bullying
- violence based on (for instance):
 - gender identity,
 - sexual orientation,
 - political or religious beliefs,
 - disability,
 - physical appearance,
 - health status,
 - racial criteria (skin color, national or ethnic origin),
 - social background,
 - or other.

A STRUCTURAL APPROACH



There are 2 general approaches through which to measure and comprehend abusive conduct :

STRUCTURAL

When abusive conduct is perceived as a structural problem, this means that **the whole organization is concerned as much in the creation of the problem as with its solution.**

My research uses a structural analysis.

ISOLATED

In contrast, when abusive conduct is understood as an isolated, individual phenomenon, this means that **the problem is considered to concern exclusively the victim and the harasser** and their respective personalities and circumstances.

This understanding:

- Fails to consider a wider analysis of power dynamics & societal constraints of discrimination,
- Looks at the problem only on individual levels,
- Risks bringing measures halfway,
- Fails to see the broader cultural and institutional context.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Is abusive conduct **understood as a current problem** within circus schools?

Which **dynamics are enabling abusive conduct** in circus schools?

Which tools exist for circus schools to address abusive conduct?

1) Does the school you work for have a system in place for students or staff to report abusive conduct?

- Yes / No
- Comment:

2) Would you say that the school you work is proactively dealing with abusive conduct?

- Yes / No
- Comment:

3) If the school you work for receives complaints about abusive conduct from a student, a member of the institution, or someone else in relation to the institution, do you feel that you as a leader have been given the information necessary to handle the situation?

- Yes / No / Some of it but not the whole way
- Comment:

4) If you have legal/psychological/organizational questions about the subject, do you know who to contact?

- Yes / No
- Comment:

5) If you answered no to the previous question, please proceed to the next question. If you answered yes to the previous question, is this contact:

- A person within the school / An association or governmental instance / A friend / Other
- Comment:

6) Does the school you work for collaborate with an outside association or governmental agency to prevent abusive conduct?

- Yes / No / I don't know
- Comment:

7) How important do you believe preventing abusive conduct within the school you work for is ?

- Extremely important / Moderately important / Not at all important
- Comment:

8) Have you ever experienced complaints of abusive conduct within the school you work for?

- Yes / No / I don't know
- Comment:

9) If you answered no to the previous question, please proceed to the next question. If you answered yes to the previous question, how would you say that you handled the situation?

- According to protocols already in place. / With 'my gut', without any further specific knowledge, just my intuition. / A mix of both. / It was not handled.
- Comment:

10) How would you say it went/is going?

- Good / Bad / I Don't know.
- Comment:

11) If you were to detect difficulties to prevent abusive conduct, which would they be? Several answers are possible.

- Attitudes / Economic / Administrative / Policies / Knowledge and information / None, the problem is overrated
- Comment:



Alisan FUNK

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THANK YOU!