



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

FROM JANUARY 24 TO 29, 2023

En partenariat avec / In partnership with

FEDEC

Modératrice / Moderator

Isabel Joly

Intervenant-es / Participants

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Co-funded by
the European Union



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Artistic Director, Upswing (ENG)

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**Researcher & External Evaluator of
SPEAK OUT project (BEL)**

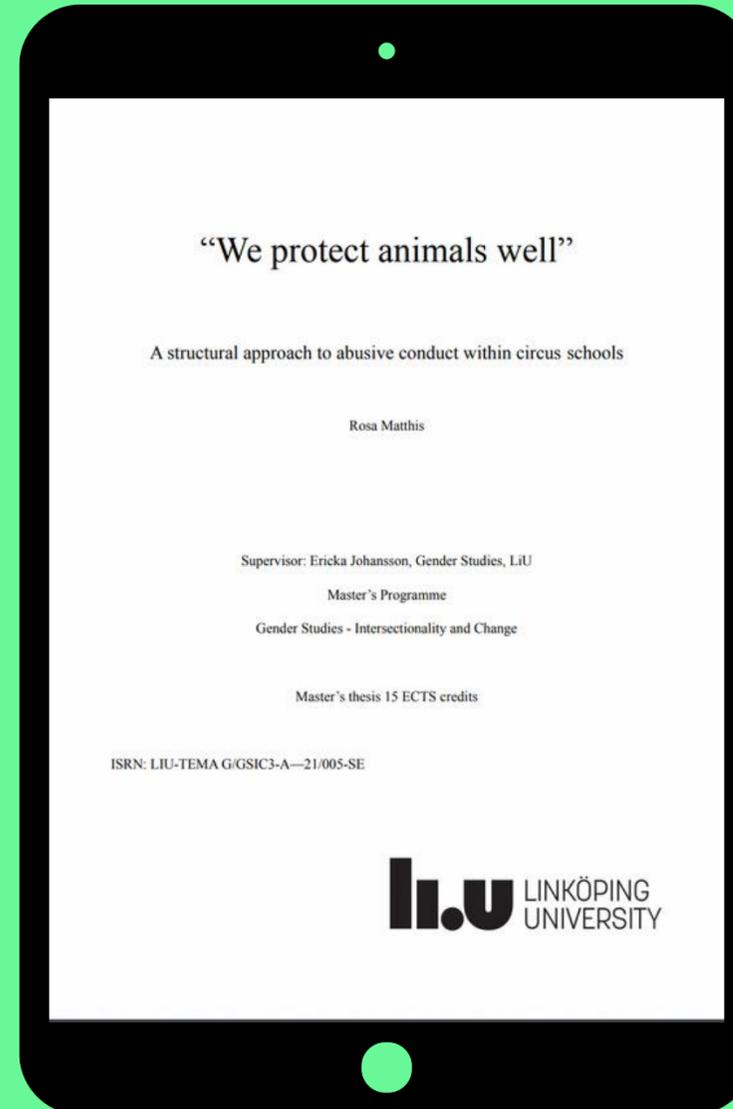
ROSA MATTHIS

“we protect animals well”

A structural approach to abusive conduct within circus schools

MASTER'S PROGRAMME - GENDER STUDIES
INTERSECTIONALITY AND CHANGE

li.u LINKÖPING
UNIVERSITY



**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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Patric JEAN

**Author, Film Director and Consultant,
JUMP (FRA)**



THANK YOU!

