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Research profile

Mit arbejde bidrager til to overordnede diskussioner:

- Gennem min forskning og mine interesseaktiviteter arbejder jeg for at få menneskerettigheds- og udviklingslærde til at forstå, at de er nødsaget til at tage daglig vold i urbane områder alvorligt og se det som signifikant i sig selv. Det er i stedet for at se menneskerettighedskrænkelser som ekstraordinære former for vold mod for eksempel menneskerettighedsforkæmpere eller blot som en funktion af dårlig udvikling eller mangel på regeringsapparat.
- Gennem min forskning om bander, radikalisering og politisk beslutningstagning vil jeg bidrage til en anden tilgang i kriminel retfærdighed væk fra straf. Den nuværende quasi-dominerende tilgang er destruktiv for vores samfund og ikke blot en krænkelse af menneskerettigheds-lovovertrædere.

Research profile

My work contributes to two overarching discussions:

1. Through my research and advocacy activities I want human rights and development scholars and practitioners to understand that they need to take serious every-day, urban violence as significant in itself. That is rather than seeing human rights violations as extra-ordinary violations against for instance human rights defenders or as a mere function of bad development or lack of governance.
2. Through my research on gangs, radicalization and policing I want to contribute to a different approach in criminal justice away from punishment. The current, quasi-dominant approach is destructive of our society and not only a violation of the human rights offenders.

Employment

Professor

Professor
Department of Society and Politics
The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
1 Sept 2015 → 31 Dec 4712

Professor

Professor
The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
Aalborg Ø, Denmark

1 Sept 2015 → 31 Dec 4712

Professor

Professor

Global Politics & Diversity

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

1 Sept 2015 → 31 Dec 4712

Professor

GRS - Global Refugee Studies

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

1 Mar 2023 → present

Centre for the study of coercion and accountability

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

København SV, Denmark

1 May 2025 → present

Publications

Surviving in Overcome Heights: Living In and Alongside Crisis in Cape Town

Jensen, S. B. & Schneidermann, N., 18 Sept 2025, *CRITICAL EXPLORATIONS OF CRISIS: Politics, Precariousness, and Potentialities*. Rydstrom, H., Hamza, M., Gammeltoft-Hansen, T. & Berggren, V. (eds.). Bristol University Press, p. 152-173 22 p.

Gangs, Drug Dealing, and Criminal Governance in Marseille, France

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Violent exchange: Towards a global criminology of exchange relations in criminal justice practices

Jensen, S. B. & Johansen, M. L., 2025, (E-pub ahead of print) In: *Theoretical Criminology*. p. 1-19 19 p., 13624806251380692.

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Gangs'stories: Marwan, or how to find redemption in Cape Town

Jensen, S., 2024, In: *The Conversation*.

The political theatre behind Philippines police cleansing

Jensen, S. B. & Hapal, K., 2023, In: *East Asia forum*.

Surviving in Overcome Heights: living in and alongside crisis in Cape Town

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Chronotopes of Displacement in a Cape Town Squatter Camp

Jensen, S., 2022, *Situating Displacement: Explorations of Global (Im)Mobility*. Schröder, R., Olivia, A. S. & Jensen, S. B. (eds.). Peter Lang Publishing Group, p. 81-94 14 p. (Political and Social Change, Vol. 10).

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Perpetrators and protectors: Centering family relations in addressing violence in poor neighbourhoods

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Afterword: The Urban and the Carceral

Jensen, S. B., 2020, In: *The Cambridge Journal of Anthropology*. 38, 1, p. 140-145 6 p.

Det er de rige og rejsende, der har bragt smitten rundt - men de fattige står til at betale prisen

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Reconfiguring Manila: Displacement, Resettlement, and the Productivity of Urban Divides

Jensen, S., Hapal, K. & Quijano, S., 2020, In: *Urban Forum*. 31, 3, p. 389-407 19 p.

A World of Significance: Equality, Ritual and Violence in a Manila Fraternity

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Torture and Ill-Treatment Under Perceived: Human Rights Documentation and the Poor

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Corporealities of violence: rape and the shimmering of embodied and material categories in South Africa

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Homelands as Frontiers - Apartheid's Loose Ends: An introduction

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This house is not my own: Temporalities in a South African Homeland

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Histories of Victim - An Introduction

Jensen, S. & Rønsbo, H., 2014, *Histories of Victimhood*. University of Pennsylvania Press

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Negotiating Victimhood in Nkomazi, South Africa

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Stunted future: buryong among young men in Manila

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Afterword: Notes on securitization and temporality

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Fra bekymring til handling i arbejdet med unge og radikaliserings

Jensen, S. B. & Finne Jacobsen, S., 2011, København: Rehabiliterings- og Forskningscentret for Torturofre, 16 p.

The Security and Development Nexus in Cape Town: War on Gangs, Counterinsurgency and Citizenship

Jensen, S., 1 Feb 2010, In: *Security Dialogue*. 41, 1, p. 77-97 21 p.

Treason and contested moralities in a coloured township, Cape Town

Jensen, S. B., 2010, *Traitors: suspicion, intimacy and the ethics of state-building*. University of Pennsylvania Press, p. 150-168 18 p.

Revolutionaries, barbarians or war machines?: gangs in Nicaragua and South Africa

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Gendered Connections: Politics, Brokers and Urban Transformation in Cape Town

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Introduction: Repopulating state violence and human rights

Jensen, S. & Jefferson, A. M., 20 Feb 2009, *State Violence and Human Rights: State Officials in the South*. Routledge, p. 1-22 22 p.

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The vision of the state: Audiences, enchantments and policing in South Africa

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Torture in South Africa: Exploring Torture, Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Threatment through the Media
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Gangs, Politics & Dignity in Cape Town
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Policing Nkomazi: crime, masculinity and generational conflicts
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Introduction
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Security and Violence on the Frontier of the State: Vigilant citizens in Nkomazi, South Africa
Jensen, S. B., 2007, *Violence and Non-Violence*. Ahluwalia, P., Bethlehem, L. & Gunio, R. (eds.). London: Routledge, p. 103-123 21 p.

The Nationalist Imperative: South Africanisation, Regional Integration and Mobile Livelihoods
Jensen, S. B. & Buur, L., 2007, *The Security-Development Nexus: Expressions of Sovereignty and Securitization in Southern Africa*. Buur, L., Jensen, S. & Stepputat, F. (eds.). Uppsala: Nordiska Afrikainstitutet, p. 63-85 22 p.

Through the Lens of Crime: Land Claims and Contestations of Citizenship on the frontier of the South African State
Jensen, S. B., 2007, *The Security-Development Nexus: Expressions of Sovereignty and Securitization in Southern Africa*. Buur, L., Jensen, S. & Stepputat, F. (eds.). Uppsala: Nordiska Afrikainstitutet, p. 193-211

Capetonian back streets: Territorializing young men
Jensen, S., 1 Sept 2006, In: *Ethnography*. 7, 3, p. 275-301 27 p.

The South African Transition: From Development to Security?
Jensen, S., 1 May 2005, In: *Development and Change*. 36, 3, p. 551-570 20 p.

Above the law: Practices of sovereignty in surrey estate, Cape Town
Jensen, S. B., 2005, *Sovereign Bodies: Citizens, Migrants, and States in the Postcolonial World*. Stepputat, F. & Hansen, T. (eds.). Princeton: Princeton University Press, p. 218-238 21 p.

Everyday policing and the occult: Notions of witchcraft, crime and "The people"
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Claiming community: Government, township politics, and the specter of crime
Jensen, S., 1 Jan 2003, In: *CDR Working Paper*. 3, 4, p. 1-26 26 p.

Claiming Community: Government, Township politics, and the Specter of Crime
Jensen, S. B., 2003, Copenhagen: Institut for Internationale Studier / Dansk Center for Internationale Studier og Menneskerettigheder, 26 p.

Claiming Community - Negotiating Crime: State formation, neighborhood and gangs in a Capetonian Township
Jensen, S. B., 2001, Roskilde: Roskilde Universitet. 365 p.

Demobilizing Armed Civilians
Jensen, S. B. & Stepputat, F., 2001, Copenhagen: Københavns Universitet, 50 p.

The battlefield and the prize: ANC's bid to reform the south african state
Jensen, S. B., 2001, *States of imagination: ethnographic explorations of the post-colonial state*. Hansen, T. & Stepputat, F. (eds.). Durham: Duke University Press

Discourses of violence: Coping with violence on the cape flats
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Press / Media

Bandefortid følger tidligere medlemmer hele livet

Jensen, S.
21/11/2018
4 items of Media coverage

Bandekonflikt: Beboere på Nørrebro håber på fredsftale

Jensen, S.
29/08/2017
6 items of Media coverage

Byernes ukontrollerede vækst truer vores globale sikkerhed

Jensen, S.
15/02/2016
1 item of Media coverage

Commentary: The political theatre behind Philippines police cleansing

Jensen, S. B.
09/03/2023
4 Media contributions

Dansk forsker: Ordet radikalisering er befængt med politik

Jensen, S.
16/11/2015
1 item of Media coverage

Dansk professor var på gaden blandt franske kriminelle: »Forlod stedet, lige før det sprang i luften«

Jensen, S.
11/07/2023
1 item of Media coverage

Det Europæiske Forskningsråd giver million-støtte til DIGNITY's forskning i vold og indespærring

Jensen, S. B.
11/04/2024 → 16/04/2024
5 items of Media coverage

DIGNITY sætter fokus på korruption og tortur

Jensen, S. & Jørgensen, H.
01/03/2019
14 items of Media coverage

Dræbt under direkte radiosending

Jensen, S. B.
06/11/2023
1 item of Media coverage

Dutertes krig mod narko satte blivende spor i fattigt kvarter i Manila

Jensen, S. B.

03/08/2022

1 item of Media coverage

Forskere: Ny bandepakke forebygger ikke kriminalitet

Jensen, S.

21/03/2017

1 item of Media coverage

Forskere om bandekonflikt: Bekymrende med kun ét svar fra politikerne

Jensen, S.

07/08/2017

5 items of Media coverage

Hadprædikantaftale er ren symbolpolitik

Jensen, S.

01/06/2016

2 items of Media coverage

Minister stiller op til debat om udviklingsbistanden

Jensen, S. & Sørensen, O. J.

02/03/2016

1 item of Media coverage

Ny bandepakke bremser ikke bandekrigen i aarhus

Jensen, S.

04/07/2017

3 items of Media coverage

Steffen gik næsten i panik da han fik millioner til forskning

Jensen, S. B.

20/04/2024 → 24/04/2024

5 items of Media coverage

Tidligere bandemedlem: Banderne samler kræfter nu

Jensen, S.

13/11/2017

10 items of Media coverage

Tyfon hærger Filippinerne efter demonstrationer mod manglende klimasikring

Jensen, S. B.

24/09/2025

1 item of Media coverage