

Sara Baumann

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PhD student and Graduate Student Researcher in Behavioral and Community Health Sciences with a concentration in community-based participatory research and mixed-methods for evaluation and research on reproductive health

Overview of Qualifications

- Over 8 years of work and research experience on international health and development projects in South and Southeast Asia (Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand)
- Doctoral thesis uses mixed methods and collaborative filmmaking through a community-based approach for exploring women's and girls' reproductive health in rural Nepal
- Research achievements include 4 peer-reviewed publications, films presented at 6 academic conferences, and 2 conference poster presentations
- Creative and motivated worker, quick learner, and proven ability to work independently and as a team

Education

PhD in Public Health

Expected Fall 2019

University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, Pittsburgh, PA

- Worked as a teaching assistant for an MPH health communications class (3 semesters), and Social and Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health (1 semester)
- Dissertation explores the use of community-based participatory film methods on the topic of menstrual health and behavior change in Far-west Nepal

Master of Public Health (MPH)

2009-2010

BRAC James P. Grant School of Public Health, Dhaka, Bangladesh – A consortium program of Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, George Washington University, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Karolinska Institute, and International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B)

- Thesis: "It's Not All About AIDS": Perceptions of Illness, Health Seeking Behaviors and Barriers to Health Care Among Hijra (Transgender) in Urban Dhaka
- Awarded as top five thesis studies and presented at Graduation Forum

Fulbright Fellow to Bangladesh

2008-2009

- Received \$22,000 in funding for independent research project

- Affiliated with UNAIDS, contributed to public health communications material and qualitative research studies on HIV prevention and awareness, focusing on vulnerable populations including sex workers and transgender individuals
- Nominated by the American Center, Dhaka to serve as mentor for succeeding batch of Fulbright Fellows

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

2004-2008

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

- Sociology of Health and Aging, Minor in Peace and Social Justice
- Study Abroad, Florence Italy

Professional Experience

Research Consultant

03/2017-Present

SisterFriend, Pittsburgh PA

- Support NGO's research aims by providing technical support for research and evaluation designs on menstrual health, education, and policy for public school students and vulnerable populations in Pittsburgh

Graduate Student Researcher

08/2016-Present

University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, Pittsburgh, PA

- Work as a Graduate Student Researcher and supported 4 faculty to date with research and writing tasks
- Co-published National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) book chapter on health disparities
- Researcher and author on 3 manuscripts: social determinants of health, community-engaged classrooms, and communications campaigns and policy on flu vaccination behavior change

Program Officer and Earthquake Response Information Manager

11/2014-05/2016

World Food Programme, Kathmandu, Nepal

- Monitored and managed nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and school construction activities of the School Meals Programme in ten districts of Nepal
- Supervised three non-governmental organization (NGO) implementing partners
- Supported the School Meals Programme at the policy level by engaging with relevant ministries and development partners, participating in national education and nutrition forums, and providing technical support for ongoing WASH studies and policy documents within the Department and Ministry of Education, such as the National WASH in Schools Guideline
- Oversaw a three-year nutrition-sensitive literacy pilot by providing technical support for material development and study design

- Performed information management duties for the Food Security Cluster for the first 1.5 months of the earthquake emergency response in Nepal. Coordinated food distribution information for over 100 partners, including the Government of Nepal, and fulfilled reporting requirements of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Consultant and Filmmaker

12/2013-06/2014

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), Bangkok, Thailand

- Lead editor for technical background research study document for the 6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR)
- Produced, wrote, shot, and edited two short documentary films with more than ten stakeholders for the 6th AMCDRR, for an audience of over 2,000 experts in the field

Marketing Director and Co-founder

2013-Present

Where in the World Apparel, Sri Lanka, Nepal and USA

- Co-founded social enterprise that creates ethical clothing incorporating traditional textile techniques from a variety of countries around the world
- Created two collections to date using traditional weaving techniques from Nepal and Sri Lanka, partnering with fair trade groups and sustainable suppliers

Television and Print Media Producer for Asia-Pacific Region

09/2012-09/2013

Grey Worldwide, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

- Produced regional print, television and digital campaigns for Pantene (P&G) Regional Office for eight countries throughout the Asia-Pacific region
- Managed project budgets within over 1 million dollar campaigns and ensured they were carried out efficiently with available resources, with respect to timelines and marketing goals
- Supervised media/film/photography projects by working with different strategic departments such as coordinating with the creative team, budgeting and meeting finance goals, managing client vision and requirements, negotiating with suppliers and maintaining strong supplier relationships

Reports Consultant

06/2012-Present

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, Bangkok, Thailand

- Provide support to Asia-Pacific country projects through comprehensive editing of training materials, proposals, and reports on climate change, disaster risk reduction and public health

Founder, Film Producer and Director

10/2010-Present

Old Fan Films, USA

- Implement public health research and behavior change communication to design strategic messages promoting social justice and development for organizations such as Save the

Children/PEPSICO, United Nations, World Food Programme, BRAC, RESULTS Educational Fund, Smithsonian Institution, ABC News, Spanish Embassy, Action Aid and more

- Produced short films and conducted communication/media research for development projects in USA, Bangladesh, Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Nepal to date
- Proficient in editing with Final Cut Pro X, Adobe Premiere, camera operation (5D Mark III), script writing, directing, producing, and film promotion

Consultant

03/2012

Winrock International, Dhaka, Bangladesh

- Edited case studies and report on human trafficking experiences to raise awareness for a USAID-funded justice and reintegration project

Filmmaker, Media and Production Strategist

02/2011-01/2012

Bengal Creative Media, Dhaka, Bangladesh

- Wrote, directed and edited NGO, development and promotional films to spread messages to donors and generate public awareness
- Designed and implemented TV programming research study in Bangladesh, facilitated focus group discussions and wrote funding and grant proposals for designing educational and awareness raising TV programs

Consultant

10/2010-05/2011

Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program USAID, Washington DC, USA

- Collected secondary research on child health in 30 developing countries for a series of online child health profiles

Consultant

02-06/2010

Helen Keller International, Dhaka, Bangladesh

- Designed and conducted a qualitative research study on gender differences within a public health nutrition and agriculture project
- Wrote annual report to share progress of HKI in Bangladesh by coordinating with members of each strategic department

Consultant

02-04/2010

Save the Children, Dhaka, Bangladesh

- Conducted monitoring and evaluation study of livelihood and emergency response program and wrote final report
- Collected data through key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and community meetings in rural Bangladesh

Project Director and Co-founder

2007-2009

The Thread Project, Chennai, India

- Founded development project that provided sewing machines and entrepreneurial skills to women in Chennai, India
- Recruited over 20 donors and managed budget and project implementation

Research Grants

Nationality Rooms Scholarship, University of Pittsburgh 2017

- Received \$4000 to support a Collaborative Filmmaking Pilot on Women's Health in Nepal

Cutler Family Fund for Ethical Global Health Research and Education & University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health 2017

- Awarded \$5000 to support ongoing research in women's health in Nepal

Indo-Pacific Graduate Student Research Grant, University of Pittsburgh 2017

- Awarded \$1000 to support ongoing research in women's health in Nepal

International Studies Fund, University of Pittsburgh 2017

- Awarded \$1000 to support ongoing research in women's health in Nepal

GROCS Informational Studies Competitive Fellowship 2007-2008

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

- Led the social science research component, designing a qualitative research feasibility study to develop a device to assist the visually impaired
- Published two academic papers in peer-reviewed journals in information technology, "Accessible Contextual Information for Urban Navigation" and "Talking-Points: A Mobile, Context-based Information System for Urban Orientation of Sighted and Visually-Impaired Users"
- Project awarded runner-up for the University of Michigan Neubacher Award for Disability Concerns

The Lotus Odyssey Research Initiative, Almora India 2007-2008

University of Michigan

- Headed the public health study component of a creative community development project implemented with woman's cooperative in North India
- Acquired full funding of \$15,000 via grants from University of Michigan Center for South Asian Studies, Anthropology Department, International Institute, Center for Education of Women and Residential College

Center for South Asian Studies Research Fellowship, Chennai India 05-07/2007

University of Michigan

- Conducted in-depth qualitative research study with 25 female sex workers and analyzed social aspects of HIV transmission

- Published research study in University of Michigan Undergraduate Research Forum, a peer-edited and faculty-reviewed interdisciplinary journal, titled “HIV Transmission & Peer Influence on Female Sex Workers in Chennai India”
- Supported YRG Care Center for AIDS Research and Education through community field research, training of local political leaders, violence against women awareness activities and community mobilization meetings

Languages

English	Native	
Italian	Speaking-Intermediate	Reading/Writing- Intermediate
Bengali	Speaking-Intermediate	Reading/Writing- Beginner
Nepali	Speaking-Beginner	Reading/Writing- N/A

Publications and Presentations

Journal Articles

- Baumann, S.** (2008). HIV Transmission and Peer Influence on Female Sex Workers in India. *University of Michigan Undergraduate Research Forum*, (5).
- Stewart, J., **Baumann, S.**, Escobar, M., Hilden, J., Bihani, K., & Newman, M. W. (2008). Accessible Contextual Information for Urban Orientation. In *UbiComp* (pp. 332–335). ACM. <https://doi.org/10.1145/1409635.1409679>
- Escobar, M. R., Newman, M. W., Stewart, J., Hilden, J., Bihani, K., & **Baumann, S.** (2008). Talking-Points: A Mobile, Context-based Information System for Urban Orientation of Sighted and Visually-Impaired Users. In *Accessible Design for the Digital World*. York, UK.

Conference Presentations

- Baumann, S.**, Mohler, S. & Burke, J. (2017, June). *Cycle Series: Menstruation from a Transmasculine Perspective*. Film and presentation at the biennial conference of the Society for Menstrual Cycle Research, Atlanta, GA.
- Baumann, S.**, Mohler S., & Burke, J. (2017, June). *Cycle Series: Menstruation from a Homeless Perspective*. Film and presentation at the biennial conference of the Society for Menstrual Cycle Research, Atlanta, GA.
- Baumann, S.**, Lhaki, P., & Burke, J. (2017, June). *Using Collaborative Filmmaking to Explore Menstrual Hygiene Management in Nepal – Preliminary Findings on a Novel Method*. Film & Presentation at the biennial conference of the Society for Menstrual Cycle Research, Atlanta, GA.

Poster Presentations

- Baumann, S.**, Lhaki, P., & Burke, J. (2018, March, Forthcoming). *Collaborative Filmmaking in Public Health Research: Findings from Piloting the Method to Explore Traditional Menstrual Practices in Far-West Nepal*. Poster at Annual Consortium of Universities for Global Health Conference, New York.
- Baumann, S.**, Lhaki, P., & Burke, J. (2017, October). *Collaborative Filmmaking in Public Health Research: Lessons from Piloting the Method to Explore Traditional Menstrual Practices in Far-West Nepal*. Poster presented at University of Pittsburgh’s Global Health Day, Pittsburgh.
- Felter, E., & **Baumann, S.** (2016, December). *A Community-Engaged Classroom Teaching Health Communications*. Poster presented at the Academically Based Community Engagement

Conference, Pittsburgh.

Journal Abstracts

Baumann, S. (2011). “It’s Not All About Aids”: Perceptions Of Illness, Health Seeking Behaviors And Barriers To Health Care Among Hijra (Transgender) In Urban Dhaka. *Tropical Medicine and International Health*, 16, 153.

Film Screenings and Other Publications

Baumann, S. & Burke, J. (2017, November). *Cycle Series: Transmasculine Experiences of Menstruation*. LGBT Working Group. Presentation, Film Screening, and Panel Discussion.

Baumann, S. & Burke, J. (2017, November). *Cycle Series: Homeless Experiences of Menstruation*. University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health. Film Screening and Panel Discussion.

Baumann, S. & Burke, J. (2017, November). *Cycle Series: Homeless Experiences of Menstruation*. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo Film Festival. Film Screening.

Baumann, S., Lhaki, P., & Burke, J. (2017, October). *Collaborative Filmmaking in Public Health Research: Films from the Field*. Film Screening. University of Pittsburgh Center for International Studies: International Week Film Festival.

Baumann, S., Lhaki, P., & Burke, J. (2017, October). *Advancing the Menstrual Hygiene Management Movement Using Collaborative Filmmaking: A Tool for Research and Advocacy*. Film Screening. 6th Virtual Conference on Menstrual Hygiene Management in Schools.

Baumann, S. (2015). *Managing Menstruation in Bangladesh: Use of Film as an Advocacy and Research Tool in Menstrual Hygiene Management*. Film presentation at 4th Annual Menstrual Hygiene Management in Wash in Schools Virtual Conference, New York.

Baumann, S. (2015). *Managing Menstruation in Bangladesh*. Film presented at 21st Biennial Conference of the Society for Menstrual Cycle Research, Boston.

Baumann, S. (2014). *Managing Menstruation in Bangladesh*. Film presented at the Second Global Symposium On Health Systems Research, Beijing.

Baumann, S. (2014). *Managing Menstruation in Bangladesh*. Film presented at the Water, Hygiene & Sanitation Conference, Brisbane.

Baumann, S. (2013). *Managing Menstruation in Bangladesh*. Film featured in opening exhibition of Imagining Equity campaign. Global Fund For Women & International Museum of Women. <http://imaginingequality.globalfundforwomen.org>

Film featured in: Mahon, T., & Cavill, S. (2012). *Menstrual Hygiene Matters: Training Guide for Practitioners*

Awards and Honors

MTV Girltank Nominee

05/2012

- Featured as young female entrepreneur, “a leader, making a difference in communities and standing up for causes she believes in using creativity and determination to bring forth transformative and long-lasting initiatives for the people and communities she cares about”

Stop TB (Tuberculosis) Partnership Winner

07/2012

- Film selected as winner of the InnovateTB (Tuberculosis) Contest

Critical Language Enhancement Award for Bengali 2008

- Awarded scholarship for 4-month intensive language study by the U.S. Student Fulbright Program

Neubacher Award Honorable Mention 2008

- University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns recognized project as outstanding in raising awareness about disability issues

Honorable Mention Exposition Award 03/2008

- University of Michigan School of Information Masters and Doctoral Symposium for Talking Points Disability Project

Lloyd Hall Scholars Program for Writing and the Arts 2004-2006

- Awarded peer mentor position and community service director during 2nd year of the program
- Designed 2nd year student program with team of 6

Student and Professional Groups

Society for Menstrual Cycle Research	2017- Present
Pittsburgh Filmmakers	2017
Global Health Student Association, Pitt Graduate School of Public Health	2016-Present
Michigan Movie Makers Association	2011-2015
Fulbright Alumni Association	2009-Present

Workshops and Trainings

Southeast Asia Refugee Mental Health Training, Asia Pacific Rights Network	06/2012
TV and Multiplatform Programming and Pitching Workshop, BBC Media Action	01/2012

Film and Media Projects

Reinventing the Toilet, Loughborough University, UK.

Short Documentary – Writer, Producer, Director, Editor

Collaborative Filmmaking in Public Health Research, University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health. *Featured at Society for Menstrual Cycle Research Conference 2017, 6th Virtual Conference for Menstrual Hygiene Management in Schools*

Short Documentary – Writer, Producer, Director, Editor

Bridging the Gaps 20th Year Anniversary Documentary, Bridging the Gaps Pittsburgh

Short Documentary – Writer, Producer, Director, Editor

Cycle Series Homeless Experiences of Menstruation, Old Fan Films USA

Short Documentary – Writer, Producer, Director, Editor. *Featured at Society for Menstrual Cycle Research Conference 2017, Featured at the American Public Health Association Film Expo 2017*

Cycle Series Transmasculine Experiences of Menstruation, Old Fan Films USA

Short Documentary – Writer, Producer, Director, Editor. *Featured at Society for Menstrual Cycle Research Conference 2017*

The Remnant, Ino Popper Productions, Pittsburgh, PA

Short Fiction Film – Script Supervisor

MPH Student Profile Films, University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health.

Short Documentaries (2) – Producer, Director, Editor

Global Children’s Design Competition in Nepal, World Food Programme.

Short Documentary – Producer, Director, Editor

Introductory film for 6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, UNISDR.

Short Documentary – Producer, Director, Writer and Editor

Story of a Girl Project, Advocacy project for global support for HIV/AIDS programming.

Short Film – Country Project Coordinator and Producer in Malaysia

Portraits of Sex Workers, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, Action Aid and Spanish Embassy.

Short Documentary – Producer, Director, Editor

Experiences of Vietnamese Refugees, Boat People S.O.S. Thailand

Short Documentary – Director

Creative Ways to Cope with Cancer, Old Fan Films, USA

Short Documentary – Producer, Writer, Director. *Featured on MTV Girl Tank blog*

Treating Tuberculosis in Bangladesh, RESULTS Educational Fund, Washington DC

Short Documentary – Producer, Writer, Director, Editor. *Overall Winner of Innovative TB Contest*

Menstrual Management in Rural Bangladesh, Richard A. Cash Foundation

Short Documentary – Producer, Writer, Director, Editor. *Second Global Symposium on Health Systems Research, WASH Conference 2014, Global Fund for Women & International Museum of Women Campaign “Imagining Equality” 2014, 21st Biennial Conference of the Society for Menstrual Cycle Research 2015, 4th Annual Menstrual Hygiene Management Virtual Conference 2015, Featured on wH2O The Journal of Gender and Water Blog*

BRAC 40th Year Anniversary, BRAC Development Organization, Bangladesh

Short Documentaries (3) – Writer, Editor

“Design for the other 90%: CITIES”, Smithsonian Institute, Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum & United Nations, New York, NY

Featured Footage – Cinematographer

The Frayed Ends, Old Fan Films, USA

Short Film – Co-Producer, Writer, Director, Editor

Gasoline, Old Fan Films, USA

Short Film – Producer, Writer, Director, Cinematographer, Editor. *Featured at Michigan Movie Makers Micro Movie Marathon*

Pumped up Kicks, Jetty Rae

Music Video – Director

Airtel Telecommunications, Dhaka Bangladesh

Music Video – Producer, Director

Health and Development Programming in Rural Bangladesh, PEPSICO, Save the Children

Short Documentaries (6) – Producer, Writer, Director, Editor

BRAC Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Richard A. Cash Foundation

Short Documentary – Producer, Director, Editor

Bengal Creative Media Promotional Video, Bengal Creative Media

Short Film – Editor

World Concern Organization Promotional Video, World Concern

Short Film – Writer, Director

Forget Me Not, Jetty Rae.

Music Video – Writer, Director. *Featured at Michigan Movie Makers Micro Movie Marathon*

Bad Apples, Jetty Rae

Music Video – Writer, Director

Botomul, Kaladas Creations and Panther Media

Short Film– Writer, Director