

Example 1

This study investigated the intimacy constructions of partners in committed heterosexual relationships who live in one low-income, semi-rural, Western Cape Coloured community. The findings indicate that traditional notions of gender that privilege men were central in these couples' intimacy and relationship constructions. Religion and community influences appeared to play an important role in shaping and maintaining such gender notions. Although most participants did not seem to question the prevalent gender roles, instances of contesting discourses and practices were identified. These offer glimpses of men and women who resisted gendered norms and who wished to be together in more equal ways.

Example 2

In South Korea and South Africa corporatism became a means to control labour in response to the political and economic crises triggered by democratisation. Globalisation and neo-liberal economic policy in both countries led to the fragmentation of labour. Without a balance of power between the state, business and labour, corporatism collapsed. Whilst labour's role in support of democratisation meant that it enjoyed some degree of policy influence initially, its capacity to influence outcomes rapidly diminished. This process is examined through a comparative analysis of the KTC in South Korea and NEDLAC in South Africa.

Example 3

The study investigated the role of input in the acquisition of vocabulary and the passive construction by four-year-old children simultaneously acquiring English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa in low socioeconomic status areas in the Western Cape. Reduced input was found to have a significant effect on the acquisition of vocabulary, but no developmental delay was found for the acquisition of the passive construction. These results are argued to provide evidence for cross-linguistic boot-strapping. The study is the first on the trilingual acquisition of English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa and makes several important contributions to the international field of bilingual first language acquisition.