

Fact Sheet:

Religion, Gender and Sexuality among Youth in Canada

Pamela Dickey Young and Heather Shipley

Innovation Funding Project, 2011-2016

Project Description and Goals:

The Religion, Gender and Sexuality Among Youth in Canada (RGSY) project collected information about how young adults (aged 18-25) living in Canada understood their religiosity, their gender, their sexuality and the relationships among these three categories. Data was compiled in three ways: from a web-based survey (closed July 2013); from interviews, and from video diaries (conducted 2013-2014).

The project had four primary aims:

- To explore the constructions and management strategies undertaken by young adults (aged 18-30) both religious and non-religious concerning their sexual identities, values, and choices;
- To examine the significant social, cultural, and political factors that inform the above-mentioned processes;
- To study how these young adults manage their religious, sexual, and gender identities;
- To generate rich qualitative and quantitative data that will contribute new knowledge to academic and policy debates on religion, youth, sexuality, and gender.

Methodology:

- a) Web-based survey aimed at youth aged 18-25 living in Canada
- b) Video diaries
- c) Interviews

Student Involvement:

- Ian Alexander Cuthbertson, Queen's University

Results:

Data collection was completed and fully transcribed by 2015-2016. Young and Shipley have coded all the data, presenting findings and publishing from the material as evidenced below. Young and Shipley are currently working on the book manuscript, and will continue to report the research findings across multiple sites.

Dissemination:

Publications

Pamela Dickey Young. "Informal Sex Education: Forces that Shape Youth Identities and Practices," in *Critical Pedagogy, Sexuality Education and Young People*, eds. Andrew Yip and Fida Sanjakdar. New York: Peter Lang, forthcoming.

Pamela Dickey Young. "Influences of Religion on the Sexual Attitudes and Practices of Canadian Youth: the Case of Premarital Sex," in *Youth, Religion and Identity*, eds. Peter Beyer, Paul Gareau and Spencer Bullivant, forthcoming.

Heather Shipley. "Apathy or Misunderstanding?: Youth's Reflections on their Religious Identity in Canada," in *Youth, Religion and Identity*, eds. Peter Beyer, Paul Gareau and Spencer Bullivant, forthcoming.

Heather Shipley and **Pamela Dickey Young**. "Religion, Youth and Queer Identities Canada," in *Sexual Diversity and Religions: Transnational Dialogues in the Contemporary World*, ed. Martin Jaime. Lima: PEG/Diversities, forthcoming.

Pamela Dickey Young, Heather Shipley and **Ian Alexander Cuthbertson**. "Religion, Gender and Sexuality Among Youth in Canada: Some Preliminary Findings." *Bulletin for the Study of Religion* 45/1 (2016): 17-26.

Pamela Dickey Young. "Who Speaks for Religion?" in *Issues in Religion and Education: Whose Religion?*, eds. Lori Beaman and Leo Van Arragon. Leiden: Brill, 2015, 305-320.

Heather Shipley. "The Spaces in Between: Religious and Sexual Intersections in Education," in *Issues in Religion and Education: Whose Religion?*, eds. Lori Beaman and Leo Van Arragon. Leiden: Brill, 2015, 211-230.

Pamela Dickey Young and Heather Shipley. "Belief, not religion: Youth Negotiations of Religious Identity in Canada," in *Handbook of Children and Youth Studies*, eds. J. Wyn and H. Cahill. Singapore: Springer, 2015, 861-873.

Heather Shipley and **Pamela Dickey Young**. "Christianity, Gender and Identity among Canadian Youth," in *The Brill Handbook of Global Contemporary Christianity: Themes and Developments in Culture, Politics and Society*, ed. S. Hunt. Leiden: Brill Academic Press, 2015, 327-345.

Heather Shipley and **Pamela Dickey Young**. "Values and Practices: How are Youth Integrating Religion and Sexuality in their Daily Lives?" in *Globalized Religion and Sexuality: Contexts, Contestations, Voices*. ed. H. Shipley. "International Studies in Religion and Society," Leiden: Brill Academic Press, 2014, 276-294.

For a full list of publications and presentations, please visit the [RGSY page](#).