

# Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies



**HumanDHS**

*Breaking the cycle of humiliation*

**Media Release**

**Wednesday, 17th August 2011**

**International Conference on Humiliation and Dignity  
At National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies  
University of Otago**

see [www.humiliationstudies.org/howeare/annualmeeting17.php](http://www.humiliationstudies.org/howeare/annualmeeting17.php)

**The topics of particular relevance for NZ, include: the sources of domestic violence, child abuse and school bullying, adolescent transitions, youth suicide and violence, safety in the workplace and the family-worklife balance**

The Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies network (HumanDHS, [www.humiliationstudies.org](http://www.humiliationstudies.org)) is holding its 17th Annual Conference at the National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Otago in Dunedin between the 29th August and 1st September.

Studies on the effects of dignity and humiliation on human behaviour, violence and peacefulness are new. Central to these studies is the understanding of the cycle of humiliation and violence, and how it might be interrupted so that cycles of mutual respect and dignity can be nurtured.

HumanDHS has just launched the World Dignity University (WDU) initiative. See [www.humiliationstudies.org/education/education.php](http://www.humiliationstudies.org/education/education.php).

This conference is relevant for NZ in many ways. The NZ Government has just released a green paper on vulnerable children, and this conference provides an opportunity to discuss this report and ideas that flow out of this in relation to domestic violence, child abuse, school bullying, adolescent transitions and its dangers. These and other questions will be explored with experienced international experts dedicated to advancing human dignity.

The Founder of HumanDHS Dr. Evelin Lindner, and Director Dr. Linda Hartling are international researchers in the field of dignity and humiliation.

Where:

The Conference is being convened by the National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Otago in Dunedin and will take place in Commerce Rooms 2.20 and 2.19

When:

1. **Conference on “Enlarging Boundaries of Compassion”:** 29th August - 31st August 2011. Registration 8.00 - 9.00am in room Commerce 2,20 at University of Otago, Dunedin.

2. **Public Event “From Humiliation to Compassion and Dignity”:** 1st September, 2011, 5.15pm - 7.00pm in room Commerce 203 at University of Otago, Dunedin, chaired by Professor Kevin P. Clements, lecturers: Dr. Evelin Lindner (Founding President of HumanDHS, affiliated with, among others, the University of Oslo in Norway, and Columbia University in NYC, USA) on, “Gender, Humiliation and Global Security” and Dr. Linda Hartling (Director of HumanDHS, affiliated with, among others, Wellesley College, Boston, USA) on “Appreciative Enquiry and Humiliation.”

Attendance options:

1. Those wishing to attend the conference are invited to register by contacting [conferences@humiliationstudies.org](mailto:conferences@humiliationstudies.org).
2. Entrance is open for the Public Event

Media Interviews:

Please contact Professor Kevin Clements on [Kevin.Clements@otago.ac.nz](mailto:Kevin.Clements@otago.ac.nz) or 03 4799468, or Brian Ward on [wardeez\[@\]xtra.co.nz](mailto:wardeez[@]xtra.co.nz) or 027 250 1803 as the first points of contact and for further information. A list of conference participants will be published on [www.humiliationstudies.org/howeare/annualmeeting17.php](http://www.humiliationstudies.org/howeare/annualmeeting17.php) and also available on request.