

**DELIVERING ON THE PROMISE OF EQUAL PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW:
UNDERSTANDING THE EXPERIENCES AND HELP-SEEKING BEHAVIOURS OF
ETHNIC MINORITY AND IMMIGRANT VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2015, 10:00 – 12:00

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE ROOM

11/F CHENG YU TUNG TOWER

CENTENNIAL CAMPUS

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

CCPL

CENTRE FOR COMPARATIVE
AND PUBLIC LAW

比較法與公法研究中心



Puja Kapai

Associate Professor and CCPL Director
Faculty of Law,
University of Hong Kong

Ms. Puja Kapai has been a consultant to and currently sits on the boards of various NGOs working with ethnic minority communities and has been a member of two deputations before the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Human Rights Committee. Her research expertise lies in international human rights law and political theory and her writing spans a broad range of subjects including minority rights, identity politics, domestic violence, and comparative law and legal transplants.

Existing protections and institutional capacities to effectively combat domestic violence continue to be challenged by cultural and religious frameworks that predominate individuals' private and public lives. Inadequate attention to the internal and external conflicts in value systems these measures represent for ethnic minority or immigrant victims forces the women to live at the peripheries of society, in isolation and grossly vulnerable to future violence and at risk of falling through 'the justice gap'.

In this seminar, Ms. Kapai will launch the findings of her comparative empirical study into help-seeking behaviours of ethnic minority and immigrant women in the United Kingdom and Hong Kong. Her study aimed to critically examine the assumptions underlying existing laws and policies governing protection against domestic violence. The findings bear out the importance and indispensability of accounting for factors that impact help-seeking behaviour, including cultural and religious value systems, socioeconomic factors and immigration status, through an intersectional impact assessment and analysis.

She will present recommendations for best practices and strategies to address the justice gap, concluding that substantive equal access to protections and remedies against domestic violence for all victims must be the benchmark against which to assess the effectiveness of the state's legal framework in protecting all women against violence.

Please click [here](#) for online registration to reserve a place.
For inquiries, please email Joyce Fung at joycef@hku.hk

