

A monthly virtual colloquium series

COVID-19 and Girls' Education in Kenya and Beyond

with Priscilla Ndegwa (Kenyatta University)
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Moderator: Hanan Duri (York University)

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Since March 2020, experts have decried the threat that COVID-19 poses to girls' education around the globe. According to the Malala Fund, 20 million adolescent girls may never return to school after lockdowns, including up to half of refugee girls in secondary school (2020). The United Nations estimates that the pandemic could result in seven million unintended pregnancies (UN, 2020). These statements reflect anxiety that the coronavirus will exacerbate girls' vulnerabilities and imperil decades of progress toward gender equitable education.

In this session, panelists in Kenya, Canada, and the US will consider:

1) the gendered construction of risk in international and national discourses on COVID-19 and education; 2) the lived experiences of young women as they navigate schooling amidst a pandemic in Kenya's Dadaab refugee camps; and 3) the possibilities for interventions to mitigate the full range of challenges facing girls who seek to return to—and stay in—school.

Everyone is welcome to participate. Join the Zoom session at



Priscilla Ndegwa





Joseph Mutua



Sharareh Kashi



Rachel Silver



Alyssa Morley



Hanan Duri





