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Profile: I am a public health social scientist. My advocacy and research are in the intersections of migration and health, with a specific focus on LGTBQ+ migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees. I have a 5-year experience of advocacy and qualitative research in this space, with a range of outputs that include but not limited to decolonial knowledge production, and digital storytelling health promotion tools, such as podcast, animated videos, and online audio drama.

Work experience:

- Senior Research Fellow, Bradford Institute for Health Research, Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation, & <u>Honorary Senior Research Fellow</u>, Bristol Medical School, Bristol University, UK – 2024 to present (ending in 31st October 2025)
 - Qualitative research lead for community-based children and adolescent physical activity research
 - o Supervise an intern & organise a symposium on qualitative research in public health
 - Stakeholder coordination (community organisations, charity, community development workers)
- Research assistant, Melbourne Sexual Health Clinic, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, Monash University – 2022 to 2023
 - Co-design an online audio drama (podcast 6 episodes with approx. 5 mins duration each) as a sexual health and HIV promotion tool for Asian-born gay men
- Research assistant, School of Public Health and Social Work, Queensland University of Technology – 2022 – 2023
 - Lead a team of 4 peer researchers from diverse ethnic backgrounds
 - Lead the participatory development of 5 animated videos (max. 5 mins duration each) as a sexual health and HIV promotion tool for women, men, and gay migrants
- Team leader and project officer, HIV education program, Queensland Positive People, 2016
 2020
 - Lead a geographically disperse team of 15 Peer Navigators (community health workers)
 - Monitoring and evaluation (mixed method)
 - Lead development of 12 educational modules
 - o Develop & deliver trainings on HIV-related topics for health and social care workforce
 - Organisational policy development
 - o Stakeholder relationships (clinicians, state government, & community organisations)

Education:

- PhD (Public Health), University of Queensland, Australia, 2024
- Master of Health Management (with Distinction), Queensland University of Technology, Australia, 2017
- Doctor of Medicine, Universitas Pembangunan Nasional Veteran Jakarta, Indonesia, 2016

Key research publications:

Istiko, S.N., & Sudarto, B. (2025). Elite actors: understanding representation of culturally and linguistically diverse communities in the Australian health system through an intersectional lens. *Stolen Tools*, *3*(1): 1-13. https://doi.org/10.59745/vg2xja26

Istiko, S.N., et al. (2024). Understanding key priority areas of mental health among queer asylum seekers and refugees in Australia through the lens of structural violence: a modified Delphi method study. *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 37(3): 750-767.

https://doi.org/10.1093/jrs/feae067

Istiko, S.N., et al. (2023). Developing critical HIV health literacy: insights from interviews with priority migrant communities in Queensland, Australia. *Cultural, Health, & Sexuality*, 10:1-16. https://doi.org/10.1080/13691058.2023.2265960

Istiko, S. N., et al. (2022). (Not that) essential: a scoping review of migrant workers' access to health services and social protection during the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. *Intl Journal of Environmental Research & Public Health*, 19(5), 2981. http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/ijerph19052981

Advocacy, research, and public engagement highlights:

I have been involved in fundraising efforts to support community-based interventions supporting LGBTQ+ asylum seekers and refugees. One of them was creating a video promotion on the impact of Pride Foundation's financial support for Third Queer Culture, a social and creative advocacy group for LGBTQ+ asylum seekers and refugees that I co-founded. Another one was obtaining financial support from Asia Pacific Network of Refugees to host a documentary film screening that also acts as a fundraising event.

From my PhD project on sexual health literacy among Asian-born gay men, I developed a decolonial interviewing approach called **race-conscious conversation**. A paper on this method is published in *Qualitative Research*.

I led the development of audiovisual animated videos to promote sexual health and HIV literacy among diverse migrant communities in Queensland called Have Fun Butt Play Safe. The project used peer research methodology.

I have created a teaching and training podcast about mental health among refugees called <u>Health Without Borders</u>. This podcast has 3 episodes with a duration of 30 mins each.

Grant capture: Since 2020, I have generated a total of **USD 150,395** in public health research and community development funding from agencies in Australia (e.g., Queensland Health), Asia Pacific (e.g., Asia Pacific Network of Refugees) & the UK (e.g., Bristol Biomedical Research Centre). These grants are mostly targeted towards migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, and other ethnic minoritised groups.

Strategic and leadership roles:

Trustee, Race Equality Network, United Kingdom – 2024 to present

Members, Coalition for LGBTQIA+ Asylum and Migration Justice, Forcibly Displaced Network, Australia – 2024

Board member, Australian GLBTIQ Multicultural Council. Australia – 2023 to 2024

Member, Review Panel for Pride Foundation's Sidney Myer Fund (for LGBTQ+ asylum seekers and refugees), Australia – 2021 to 2022

Language: Indonesian (native); English (advanced)

Professional developments and achievements:

2025 – Mentor for a lived experience researcher, BASNET – UK BME Anti-slavery Network, Afruca

2024 – Mentee, University of New South Wales Kaldor Centre Displaced Scholars Peer Mentoring Program

2023 – Refugee Studies Centre' Pathways course (with Excellence in Community Engagement), University of Oxford

2023 - First Prize, Let's Get PrEPared Designathon! Interventions to increase awareness and uptake of PrEP among Asian-born Men who Have Sex with Men in Australia, Melbourne Sexual Health Centre

2021 - Best Presentation Prize, Monash Migration and Inclusion Centre Next Generation Network Symposium

Conference, training, and other public speaking highlights:

Conference – Chair, *Being queer (migrants), doing queer migration research*, International Migration Research Network (IMISCOE) Annual Conference 2024

Seminar – Speaker, What are the key priority areas for refugee services to improve the mental health of queer asylum seekers and refugees in Australia? Refugee-led Research Hub, University of Oxford, 2024.

Training - Trainer, Sexual health literacy in HIV, migration and public health, HIV Education Queensland, 2023