

# Wendy Knerr

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**Summary:** I am an experienced writer, editor and researcher in the fields of health and international development. I have a writing and research background encompassing a wide range of topics, including women's empowerment, maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, prevention of family and sexual violence, cancer screening, and the social determinants of health. I specialize in systematic literature reviews and meta-analyses.

## Employment and volunteer work

### Research Associate

*University of Warwick Medical School / Warwick Evidence*      *Dec 2018 – present*

Working with the Evidence Review Group (ERG) to appraise clinical evidence on health treatments for the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

### Research Associate

*MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit,  
University of Glasgow*      *Oct 2017 – Nov 2019*

Conducted systematic reviews and other quantitative and qualitative research to assess parenting programmes for the prevention of child maltreatment in low- and middle-income countries, as part of the Complexity in Health Improvement Programme.

### Research Officer

*University of Oxford Centre for Evidence-Based Intervention*      *Sept 2014 – July 2016*

Systematic reviewing and meta-analyses of psychosocial interventions, particularly: cross-cultural transportability of interventions, family violence, parenting, child behaviour, and programming for low-income and resource-poor contexts.

### Research, Writing and Training Consultant

*The Write Effect UK*      *Oct 2004 – present*

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses, writing and editing, facilitation and training, for international organizations and research institutions. A selection of clients/projects includes the following:

#### *Research*

**Medical Research Council (South Africa) Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) (Cape Town)** – Researcher/writer, 'Parenting and the prevention of child maltreatment in low- and middle-income countries: A systematic review', funded by the Oak Foundation, published in the journal *Prevention Science*, February 2013.

<http://resourcecentre.savethechildren.se/sites/default/files/documents/5671.pdf>

**UNESCO (Geneva)** – Evidence review to update the *International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education*. Involved literature searching, synthesis of systematic reviews and process evaluations of sexuality education programmes, and integration of survey results and consensus recommendations. Included appraisal of strength of evidence and balancing trial evidence with expert opinion and the need for a rights-based approach, 2016.

**Countdown 2015 Europe, *Equilibres et Population* and Interact Worldwide (Brussels/Paris/London)** – Synthesizing survey data and writing report of the ‘Workshop on Innovative Financing Mechanisms,’ London (May 2012), and writing fact sheets exploring the links between family planning and current international development issues (e.g. human rights, sustainable development, and inclusive growth), as background materials for the High Level Expert Meeting, Brussels, March 2012.

**Countdown 2015 Europe (Brussels)** – ‘Funding for Reproductive Health Supplies: An Analysis of Official Development Assistance from European Donors,’ and tracking of donor funding for supplies (2010).

#### *Writing and Advocacy*

**UNFPA EECARO (Istanbul)** – Lead writer of synthesis reports of expert meetings as part of the ICPD Beyond 2014 review process. Themes were: ‘Population Dynamics and Sustainable Development’; ‘Inequalities, Social Inclusion and Rights’; and ‘Families and Sexual and Reproductive Health over the Life Course’ (2013–2015).  
<http://eeca.unfpa.org/publications/icpd-beyond-2014-review-unece-region>

**WHO and Pan-American Health Organization (Geneva/Washington, DC)** – Lead researcher and writer for the WHO Series of Information Sheets on Violence Against Women, featuring the latest evidence on risk factors, prevalence/incidence and interventions, 2009/2010. These information sheets were peer reviewed.  
<http://apps.who.int/iris/simple-search?query=knerr>

**International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network (Brussels)** – Co-researcher and editor, ‘Policy responses to fertility trends in Europe and Central Asia’ (2010).

**WHO, University College London and US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) (Washington, DC)** – Strategic revision of ‘Investment Case for Improving Access to and Quality of Integrated Antenatal Care: A Vision to Eliminate Congenital Syphilis’ (2009).

**London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (London)** – Lead writer of policy briefs aimed at influencing Pakistani policymakers to support services for sexually transmitted infections and to protect the human rights of sex workers (2009).

**International HIV/AIDS Alliance (UK)** – Data gathering and writing ‘Mainstreaming Towards Universal Access: What international policy-makers and donors can do to increase and improve AIDS mainstreaming’, based on research in Burkina Faso, Cambodia, India and Zambia, 2008.

**International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP) (UK)** – Writing, editing and communications consultancy aimed at improving access to, and production and use of, research information and knowledge in low- and middle-income countries.

*Facilitation and Training*

**European NGOs for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Population and Development (EuroNGOs) (Brussels)** – Rapporteur at annual conferences and AGMs (2008 – 2012).

**Government of Germany and UNFPA (Berlin)** – Chief rapporteur and communications trainer for ‘Global Partners in Action: NGO Forum on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Development’, Berlin, 2–4 September 2009.

**International AIDS Society (Vienna)** – Rapporteur, Track D: Social and behavioural sciences, XVIII International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2010), Vienna, July 2010.

*Writing for websites and online content*

**University of Oxford Centre for Evidence Based Intervention (UK)** – Strategy, structure and content writing of new website. This involved a complete market analysis, appraisal of existing website, mapping of new website functionality, and writing of all new site content aimed at social programme/policy researchers, policymakers and practitioners.

**EuroNGOs (Brussels)** – Communications strategy development, e-resource analysis and English-language writing instruction for non-native-English speakers (2013).

**UNAIDS (New York)** – Writing feature articles for the UNAIDS website (2008).

**Communications Officer**

*International Planned Parenthood Federation*

*European Network*

*Oct 2003 – Nov 2004*

Management, creation and execution of all communication materials for the European Regional Office of this international non-profit organization.

**Communications Consultant (business and technology)**

*The Write Effect USA*

*Jul 2001 – Jul 2003*

Freelance marketing, writing and research for corporations in the technology, communications, publishing, advertising and financial industries. Many projects involved web-based resources, including creative ‘concepting’ and drafting user-friendly websites.

**Direct Marketing Copywriter**

*Northlich Advertising*

*Nov 2000 – Jul 2001*

Writing creative copy for national and international clients, including Procter and Gamble (e.g. Olay beauty products and Crest toothpaste) and Cincinnati Bell Telephone.

**Editor, Direct Marketing**

*Writer's Digest Book Club, F&W Publications*

*Jun 1998 – Nov 2000*

Managing the publication of a 16-page catalogue fourteen times per year; training sales and marketing staff to write copy; hiring and managing freelance writers and designers; and working with book editors and marketing staff to conceive, create and launch books for the Writer's Digest imprint.

**Publications and Research**

WHO guidelines on parenting interventions to prevent maltreatment and enhance parent–child relationships with children aged 0–17 years. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2022. [www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240065505](http://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240065505)

Montgomery P, Knerr W, Ross D and Patterson J. The Effectiveness and Acceptability of Comprehensive and Multicomponent School Health Services: A Systematic Review. *Journal of Adolescent Health* 2022; 70(2):192-207.

Mottram R, Knerr WL, Gallacher D, et al. Factors associated with attendance at screening for breast cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *BMJ Open* 2021;11:e046660. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2020-046660

Leijten P, Gardner F, Melendez-Torres GJ, van Aar J, Hutchings J, Schulz S, et al. Meta-Analyses: Key Parenting Program Components for Disruptive Child Behavior. *J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry*. 2019;58(2):180-90.

Clarke A, Grove A, Auguste P, Patterson J, Knerr W, Armoiry X, et al. Peginterferon beta-1a for treating relapsing–remitting multiple sclerosis. **Warwick Evidence: A Single Technology Appraisal**, NICE. 2019.

Leijten P, Gardner F, Melendez-Torres GJ, Knerr W, Overbeek G. Parenting behaviors that shape child compliance: A multilevel meta-analysis. *PLOS ONE*. 2018;13(10):e0204929.

Vlahovicova, K., Melendez-Torres, G.J., Leijten, P., Knerr, W., and Gardner, F. Parenting Programs for the Prevention of Child Physical Abuse Recurrence: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis, *Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review*. 2017:1–15.

Montgomery P and Knerr W. Review of the evidence on sexuality education: report to inform the update of the UNESCO International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education. Paris: **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization**; 2016.

Leijten, P., Melendez-Torres, G.J., Knerr, W., and Gardner, F. Transported Versus Homegrown Parenting Interventions for Reducing Disruptive Child Behavior: A Multilevel Meta-Regression Study, *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*. 2016;55(7):610-617. [sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0890856716301733](http://sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0890856716301733)

Gardner, F., Knerr, W., and Montgomery, P. Transporting evidence-based parenting programs for child problem behavior between countries: Systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*. 2015;45(6):749-762. DOI: 10.1080/15374416.2015.1015134.

Knerr, W., Gardner, F., and Cluver, L. Improving positive parenting skills and reducing harsh and abusive parenting in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review, *Prevention Science*. 2013;14(4):352–63. [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23315023](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23315023)

Knerr, W. Does condom social marketing improve health outcomes and increase usage and equitable access?, *Reproductive Health Matters*. 2011;19(37):166–73.

Knerr W and Philpott A. Promoting Safer Sex Through Pleasure: Lessons from 15 countries, *Development*. 2009;52(1):95–100.

Knerr, W., Maher, D. and Philpott, A. (2006) Promoting protection and pleasure: Maximising the effectiveness of barriers against sexually transmitted pathogens and pregnancy, *Lancet*. 2006;368:2028–31.

Knerr, W. (2004) Europe's Response to the AIDS Epidemic: An Interview with Dr. Lieve Fransen, European Commission, *Choices magazine*. International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network. 2004.

### **Education**

MSc (Distinction), Evidence Based Social Intervention, Department of Social Policy and Intervention, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK	graduated Sept 2010
BA, Sociology, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, USA	graduated June 1993

**Languages:** English mother tongue; spoken Spanish; basic French.