

Malebo Sephodi (Gololo), malebosays@gmail.com, +27 81 207 2285

Malebo Sephodi is an award winning author, community development worker, and an interdisciplinary scholar. Her research interests include human development policy, gender, decolonisation of knowledge, and digital technology for society. She has over six years corporate experience working in international companies. She left the corporate sector in 2011 to focus on academic and advocacy work. She has over 20 years of community development experience starting as a teenager as a peer facilitator for the City of Johannesburg. Malebo has worked and spoken in various parts of Africa, Europe and the US for many institutions; private and public. She works with many NGOs, the public, and private sector tackling numerous socio-economic projects. She has hosted programmes on talk radio and television tackling issues on gender, social justice, human rights, the development discourse of Africa and international relations.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS	Human development policy, human rights, African feminism, critical theory, critical thinking, decolonisation of knowledge, social justice advocacy and activism, international relations, digital technology for development, artificial intelligence and society, development teaching
EDUCATION	<p>PhD Associate, Information Systems (interrogating social implication of artificial intelligence). University of Cape Town (Current)</p> <p>African Doctoral Academy Winter School 2019, Stellenbosch University</p> <p>MA in International Relations (informal sector as a catalyst for poverty reduction). Wits University</p> <p>BA (Joint Honours) in International Relations and Development Studies (with distinction) (Africa and Aid). Wits University</p> <p>BA. Majors: International Relations, Politics, and Psychology. Wits University</p> <p>Certificate in HIV/AIDS Care in South Africa. University of South Africa (2009)</p>
WORK EXPERIENCE	<p>Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management, Wits University Feb 2019 – Dec 2019 Lecturer: Critical Thinking and Communication for Accountants Developed the critical thinking skills curriculum as a pilot project for the Accounting department Led a group of 11 tutors for the course</p> <p>The Society, Work and Politics Institute (SWOP), Wits University Jan 2019 – June 2019 Researcher: Conducting research on popular politics and gender. This research looks at the ways gender shapes community protests and the local ANC politics in several sites across South Africa</p> <p>Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment, Wits University 2017 – 2018 Academic and language support for first year engineering students Classes took place two hours a week First semester – Built Environment, Second semester – Civil Engineering</p>

WORK EXPERIENCE CONTINUED	Centre for Part Time studies, International Relations, Wits University 2016 – 2017
	Guest Lecturer and Academic Support: third year Regional Studies: Africa and third year transnational studies
	International Relations Department, Wits University 2016 – 2017
	Teaching and Research Assistant: Assisted in developing and teaching courses for third year students in Gender, and Critical Theory Researching Gender, Development, and Critical Theory Tutored first year students (2016), third year students (2017)
	Soul City Institute for Social Justice 2017
	Research Consultant on gender, and development. Worked on Project such as Rise Tv Show as a contributor, advisor and host Was part of the conceptualising, developing and pilot team for #NotYetUhuru Feminist Digital Platform
Power Fm 2013 – 2018	
Free Lance Talk Radio Host on current affairs Analyst on unfolding nature of South Africa’s current affairs	
Chartis (AIG) South Africa May 2008 – October 2011	
Business Management/Development Consultant: Developed, retained and expanded business management strategies. Managed relationships to ensure that service levels met or exceeded customer expectations across all products and services. Designed programmes and executed through a project flow	
Specialised Group January 2008 – May 2008	
Programs Manager – Camp America	
Youth Discovery Programs March 2005 – December 2007	
Cultural Care USA Programmes Specialist	
Sparrows Schools Fund April 2004 – August 2004	
Development Teaching Intern	
VOLUNTEER WORK (NON-PAID)	Soul Ova, Community Development 2005 – Current
	Counselling organisation addressing issues of gender-based violence Mentorship programmes for students. Mentorship programme for Black Women Leaders: Community, Professionals, Scholars and Entrepreneurs
	#FeesMustFall 2015 and 2016
	Member of the Wits Black Academic Caucus which offered student support: tutorials, mental health, writing, advisory
	Wits Writing Centre 2015 – 2016
Forum for Critical Consciousness, Programmes Manager, Organised Programmes, Project, Dialogues around critical social issues. Compiled and edited submissions for the writing centre publications	
Ithemba 2002 - 2003	
Youth Advocacy work in South Africa and Germany	

<p>CONFERENCES AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS</p>	<p>Keynote Speaker: Thebe Ya Basadi (Thebe Investment Corporation), Rand Mutual, Gauteng Department of Education, Wits University, University of Pretoria, University of South Africa, Various Schools across South Africa</p>
<p>CONFERENCES AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS CONTINUED</p>	<p>Facilitator: Various Panels at Wits University, Ford Foundation, Commission for Gender Equality, Soul City, St Stithians Boys College, Gauteng Department of Education, Independent Examination Board (IEB), Youth Employment Services Launch (Launched by The Presidency of the Republic of South Africa), Rand Mutual Assurance, Cell C Take a Girl Child to Work</p> <p>Panellist: Various Panels at Wits University, University of Cape Town, University of South Africa, Walter Sisulu University, Oxford University (UK), Thabo Mbeki Leadership Institute (TMLI), Various Schools across South Africa, Soul City, African Black Chartered Accountants of South Africa (ABASA), Jacana Media, The African Women’s Movement (AWM), Black Management Forum (BMF)</p> <p>Media: SABC, ETV, Destiny Mag, True Love, The Star, Sunday Independent, Sowetan, Sunday Times, SA Fm, Power Fm, Radio 702, radio podcasts</p>
<p>OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY ENGAGEMENT</p>	<p>2013 Presidency invitation to talk about the economy</p> <p>2018 YES Launch Host</p> <p>2019 IGBV committee participant</p>
<p>PUBLICATIONS</p>	<p><i>Miss Behave</i> (2017). BlackBird Books (Imprint of Jacana Media): Johannesburg</p> <p><i>Miss Behave</i> won the South African Literary Award for First Time Published Author (2018). It was long-listed for the Sunday Times Alan Paton’s Prize for non-fiction, 2018</p> <p><i>“The delivery of the message in this book can be best described as a manifesto for South African black women. This is because of the neglect and how black men fail to hear women, to learn from them and be part of the change to society. This message is brought home very well by Sephodi.”</i> – National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences Awards Judges Comments, 2018</p>
<p>AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS</p>	<p>Award for excellence in International Relations, Wits University, 2015</p> <p>Award for excellence in Development Studies (one of Wits’ most competitive programmes), 2016</p> <p>Walter and Albertina Sisulu Prize for overall academic excellence and human rights work, Wits University, 2016</p> <p>Postgraduate Merit Awards, Wits University, 2016 and 2017</p> <p>Mellon Fellowship, Wits City Institute, 2017</p> <p>Flavalite Innovations LoveOlution Ambassador</p> <p>OkayAfrica 100 Women Honoree for Literature 2018</p> <p>Nirox Foundation writer-in residence 2018</p> <p>Mail and Guardian Top 200 Young People (under 35) of South Africa 2018: Civil Society Category</p> <p>Fabulous Woman Brave Award, 2018</p> <p>Gauteng Legislature Vita Basadi Awards 2018 – Outstanding Creative (Runner Up)</p>

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS	South African Literary Award for First-Time Published Author 2018 – <i>Miss Behave</i> Africa Centre Artists-In Residency Shortlist, 2018 Avance Media 2018 Most Influential South Africans
MEMBERSHIPS	International Studies Association Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence Association for Women’s Rights in Development
REFERENCES	On Request