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THE IMPACT OF PERSONAL VIABILITY TRAINING ON GENDER RELATIONS IN MINING COMMUNITIES: THE CASE OF LIHIR, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Bernadette Vaita HARO

2010
The Impact of Personal Viability training on Gender Relations in Mining Communities: The Case of Lihir, Papua New Guinea

A Thesis presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Philosophy in Development Studies at Massey University, New Zealand.

Bernadette Vaita HARO

2010
DEDICATION

This thesis is a special dedication to my darling daughter, Elma Alstonia Ahoro Haro. I know the Lord in His own Divine way, has healed you completely from your ill-health. You have been the special reason and motivation in my life to keep focused and complete this thesis without any major extended time. I hold you dearly in my heart, but more so, I know the Lord is holding you even closer, in His bosom.
ABSTRACT

Personal Viability (PV), an entrepreneurial skills and personal development training program, has become a national phenomenon in Papua New Guinea since its introduction in the country in 1995. With the support of various key leaders in Government, civic and social organisations, the Government of Papua New Guinea officially launched the program in 1996 mandating the Entrepreneurial Development Training Centre (EDTC) to carry out the training in all 20 provinces of the country. This thesis is concerned with the influence of PV training in the context of large-scale natural resource development, with the focus on Lihir, an open-cut gold mine community in the New Ireland province of Papua New Guinea. Since the gold mine operation started on the island, Lihir has experienced dramatic social, economic and political changes as a society. One element of this has been the effect on traditional gender roles and relations as a result of people’s increased engagement in the global capitalist economy. As PV is promoted as a contemporary strategy for economic development thus motivating people to cultivate a spirit of entrepreneurship, this thesis explores its influence on the lives of women and men in Lihir, and in particular their attitude and behaviour toward the usage and management of wealth and resources; their participation in customary activities; and changes in their traditional gender roles and relations.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to the following individuals, families, groups and organisations for the completion of this thesis. It has truly been a privilege. Words cannot express my deepest gratitude and I remain indebted to you all.

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The various leaders whom I met and interviewed as my secondary research participants, in particular John Bosco and Jacquelyn Membyo, who shared openly with me about their views regarding PV in Lihir as well as important issues they face as leaders in Lihir. Apet!

To the Government of Papua New Guinea through the Department of Personnel Management and the National Training Council for initial selection and recommendation to the New Zealand High Commission, for me to be a recipient of the NZAID scholarship.

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Serah Ricky and her family for providing accommodation throughout my stay in Lihir. Special thank you to little Michael, for being my knowledgeable guide around Zuen community. Apet.

The staff of the Community Relations Office of LGL who welcomed me into their office and offered a temporary office space to do my work, after returning from the field. A special thank you to those staff who were willing to be interviewed and be part of this research.

To Karin Bruckner for proofreading and feedback on the initial and final drafts of the thesis.

To my dear sister in the Lord and friend, Sesimani Havea, for the inspiration and prayer times shared together. May the Lord reward you richly for the time you have spent praying and upholding me in prayer.

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Above all else to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ my Source of strength and inspiration and from whom all blessings flow. All Glory, Honour and Praise, be to Him.
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MAPS

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AusAID</td>
<td>Australian Agency for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSP</td>
<td>Bank of South Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRO</td>
<td>Community Relations Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFCD</td>
<td>Department For Community Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DoC</td>
<td>Department of Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTC</td>
<td>Entrepreneurial Development Training Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FODE</td>
<td>Flexible and Open Distant Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAD</td>
<td>Gender and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GNP</td>
<td>Gross National Product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBP</td>
<td>Integrated Benefit Package</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDS</td>
<td>Institute of Development Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMF</td>
<td>International Monetary Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISSO</td>
<td>International Student Support Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Information Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JNC</td>
<td>Joint Negotiating Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGL</td>
<td>Lihir Gold Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMALA</td>
<td>Lihir Mining Area Landowners Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMC</td>
<td>Lihir Management Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMIC</td>
<td>Lower Middle Income Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNG</td>
<td>Liquefied Natural Gas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSDL</td>
<td>Lihir Sustainability Development Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSDP</td>
<td>Lihir Sustainable Development Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTDS</td>
<td>Medium Term Development Strategy</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUHEC</td>
<td>Massey University Human Ethics Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCD</td>
<td>National Capital District</td>
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<td>National Capital District Commission</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
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<td>NRLLG</td>
<td>Nimamar Rural Local Level Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>NZAID</td>
<td>New Zealand Agency for International Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>PIDP</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Development Program</td>
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<td>PMV</td>
<td>Public Motor Vehicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PNG</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
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<td>PV</td>
<td>Personal Viability</td>
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<td>PWA</td>
<td>Petztorme Women’s Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>SML</td>
<td>Special Mining Lease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSI</td>
<td>Semi-Structured Interview</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Program</td>
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<td>UNHDR</td>
<td>United Nations Human Development Report</td>
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