

Marcela Losantos Velasco

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Topics of interest: Children's rights, violence against children, social exclusion, community-based research, transdisciplinary-based research.

AWARDS

<i>Oct-2021</i>	Best researcher of the year Universidad Católica Boliviana "San Pablo"
<i>Oct/2018:</i>	Marie Curie Award Winner National Academy of Sciences
<i>Sept/2015:</i>	Cum Laude on Ph.D. Dissertation

WORK EXPERIENCE

<i>April-2019 to date:</i>	Universidad Católica Boliviana "San Pablo"
<i>Position title:</i>	National Coordinator of the Inter-University Cooperation Program between UCB and VLIR-UOS
<i>Activity:</i>	To lead the Interuniversity Cooperation Program in Transdisciplinary and Collaborative Approaches to Reduce Ecological and Social Vulnerability in rural areas of Bolivia, between the Universidad Católica Boliviana "San Pablo" and the Flemish Council of Five Universities in Belgium (VLIR-UOS).
<i>June-2015- to date:</i>	Universidad Católica Boliviana "San Pablo"
<i>Position Title:</i>	Coordinator of the Research Institute of Behavioral and Social Sciences
<i>Activity:</i>	To develop community based research with children, adolescents and families living in vulnerable situations.
<i>Dic/2011-to 2014:</i>	Universidad Católica Boliviana "San Pablo" – Vrije Universiteit Brusel
<i>Position Title:</i>	Ph.D. Researcher –granted a VLIR-UOS scholarship
<i>Activity:</i>	Conducting doctoral research on the permanence of children, adolescents and youth in street situations in Bolivia.
<i>Jan/2004-Apr/2013:</i>	Alalay Foundation – A home for street children
<i>Position Title:</i>	Program coordinator of protection and prevention models for street children
<i>Activity:</i>	In charge of: a) designing psychological approaches for children living on the streets, children living under family violence and families under vulnerable conditions; b) Team supervision of project coordinators; c) Writing monthly and yearly reports of both protection and prevention programs.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

<i>Jan/2010-to date:</i>	Universidad Católica Boliviana "San Pablo"
<i>Activity:</i>	Professor of the undergraduate and postgraduate programs of Psychology, Systemic Epistemology in Family Therapy, Collaborative Approaches to Children and Adolescents in high-risk situations and family violence interventions, and Qualitative Methods for the Social Sciences.

Universidad Mayor de San Andrés
Invited Professor on Qualitative Methods
First version of the Doctoral Program on Public Health.

EDUCATION

- 2015: PhD in Psychology
Vrije Universiteit Brusel -Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo”
- 2009: Master in Psychology of Health
Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo” – La Paz, Bolivia
- 2007: Diploma on Sexuality, Culture and Society.
Universiteit Van Amsterdam- Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2006: Diploma on Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse
Universidad Los Andes – Bogotá, Colombia
- 2005: Specialist in Systemic Brief Therapies
Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo” – La Paz, Bolivia
- 2003: Degree in Psychology
Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo” – La Paz, Bolivia

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2019: 3rd European Congress of Qualitative Inquiry
Art Based Research and Activism
The University of Edinburgh, Scotland
- 2017: Dialogic and Collaborative Research
Kanankil Institute, México
- 2017: 3rd International Congress of Collaborative and Dialogic Practices
Universidad de La Laguna – Tenerife.
- 2017: Qualitative Research in vulnerable groups
Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- 2015: Summer institute on Collaborative practices in therapy and research in Psychology
Houston Galveston Institute, Isla Mujeres- México.
- 2014: World congress of street workers working with people in street situation
Dynamo organization, Tarija-Bolivia
- 2013: Collaborative practices in therapy and research
University of Sao Paulo, Brazil.
- 2013: Construccinism in social research
University of Oslo- Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo”
- 2013: Narrative writing skills and different ways to present narrative research
findings -Universidad Autónoma de México
- 2013: Narrative Research II
Vrije Universiteit Brusel- Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo”

- 2012: Narrative Research I
Vrije Universiteit Brussel- Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo”
- 2012: Ethnographic Methods
The Graduate School and University Center of the City University of New York - Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo” – La Paz, Bolivia
- 2012: Qualitative Methods
University of Michigan -Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo” – La Paz, Bolivia
- 2011: Summer institute -Innovations in Collaborative Practices
Houston Galveston Institute- Playa del Carmen, México
- 2011: Narrative Research Methodology
University of London-Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo” – La Paz, Bolivia
- 2006: Intervention in Cases of Sexual Abuse.
Bolivian Society of Forensic Sciences - La Paz, Bolivia
- 2002: Family Therapy and Structural Approach
Bolivian Family Therapy Institute – La Paz, Bolivia
- 2002: Gestalt Psychotherapy
Bolivian Family Therapy Institute – La Paz, Bolivia
- 2001: Qualitative Research in Social Psychology
Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo” – La Paz, Bolivia

MEMBERSHIPS

Active member of the Taos Institute: <https://www.taosinstitute.net/>

Active member of INTRAC - *International Research Network on Transitions to Adulthood from Care:*
<https://globalintrac.com>

LANGUAGES

Spanish: Native Speaker

English: Excellent Oral and written level (103/120 Internet-Based TOEFL)

Portuguese: Good oral and written level

RESEARCH PROJECTS CONDUCTED

FUNDING INSTITUTION	RESEARCH PROJECT	RESEARCH PERIOD	GRANT (\$us)
SOS Children's Villages	National study on the rights of children who have lost family care or are at risk of losing it	2015-2017	40,000.00

UCB competitive funds (2nd call)	Coping strategies in Street-connected youth with HIV (+) in Bolivia	2016-2017	14,814.00
Confederation of Flemish Universities VLIR-UOS	Building capacities to reduce social vulnerability	2017-2022	385,249.00
World Vision Bolivia	National study on the phenomenon of violence against children in Bolivia	2017 - 2019	50,000.00
TIA Foundation, Ribaaje Network , Pastoral Caritas	Social reintegration of youth leaving care in Bolivia	2019-2021	5,029.00
Italian Development Cooperation Agency	Criminal and antisocial behaviors in adolescents from nations and native indigenist communities	2020-2021	29,000.00
Education and Cooperation Foundation (EDUCO)	Children's well-being perception in Bolivia, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Honduras	2019-2020	15,000.00
Education and Cooperation Foundation (EDUCO)	Analysis of the situation of education, protection and participation in Bolivia.	2020-2021	15,000.00
Unicef	The effects of the pandemic on the psychological and social state of parents and caregivers of early childhood children and business practices that favor care in the context of Covid-19	2020-2021	20,000
UCB competitive funds (5th call)	Understanding to prevent: Understanding to prevent: factors associated with infanticide from the perception of the perpetrators and young people in La Paz.	March 2021-March 2022	15,133
EDUCO Foundation and Act2gether	Social determinants that promote or hinder children's right to participation	March 2021 – March 2022	15,000

Educo Spain Foundation	Well-being in children: A Comparative analysis between data from Spain and Latin America	January 2022-January 2023	6,500
Louvain Cooperation	Balance between child care and women's entrepreneurship in rural areas of Bolivia	January 2022-December 2023	22,500
International Justice Mission	Institutional Response of the Justice System to violence against children in Bolivia	March 2022 to March 2023	140,000
IUC Project between UCB and VLIR UOS	Inclusive and Sustainable Development of Rural and Peri-Urban Communities in Bolivia	September-2022-September 2027	2,680,000

PUBLICATIONS

- Losantos, M. & Pinto, B (2011). Percepción de Factores Familiares de Riesgo de Maltrato Infantil en Niños y Adolescentes en Riesgo Social de La Paz, El Alto, Cochabamba y Santa Cruz. *Ajayu Órgano de Difusión Científica del Departamento de Psicología UCBSP*, 9(2), 308-323.
- Berckmans, I., Losantos Velasco, M., Tapia, B. P., & Loots, G. (2012). A systematic review: A quest for effective interventions for children and adolescents in street situation. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 34(7), 1259-1272.
- Losantos Velasco, M., Berckmans, I., Villanueva O'Driscoll, J., & Loots, G. (2014). A visual narrative research on photographs taken by children living on the street in the city of La Paz–Bolivia. *Children and youth services review*, 42, 136-146.
- Losantos, M. (2015). Protección y participación: la desafiante situación de derechos de los niños y adolescentes que viven en la calle. *Familia, niños y adolescentes en situación de Vulnerabilidad: Aportes para la política pública*, 34-55.
- Berckmans, I., Losantos Velasco M. & Loots, G. (2015). Breaking silence: Exploring motherhood and social transformation in a participatory action research with Alteñan mothers. *Gender, Place & Culture: a Journal of Feminist Geography*. 23 (7). 1017-1032.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0966369X.2015.1073702>
- Berckmans, I., Losantos Velasco M., O'Driscoll J. V., & Loots, G. (2015). Why can't you change? Stories of parents and street educators about young girls entering and leaving street life in Bolivia. *Children's Geographies* (14) 513-526. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14733285.2015.1123221>
- Losantos, M., Montoya, T., Exeni, S., Santa Cruz, M., Loots, G. (2016). Applying socioconstructionism to research in psychology. *International Journal of Collaborative Practices* (6) 415-433
- Losantos, M., Berckmans, I., Pieters, S., Dómic, J. & Loots, G. (2015). Resistiendo la exclusión: el uso de inhalantes en jóvenes en situación de calle de la ciudad de La Paz. *Ajayu: Órgano de difusión científica del Departamento de Psicología* [En Línea], 13(2), 199-234, Available in: <http://www.ucb.edu.bo/publicaciones/Ajayu/v13n2/v13n2a05.pdf>.
- Losantos, M., Guillén, N., Martínez, O., Castro, P., Clementi, C., Callisaya, J. & Arana, M. (2017). Situación de derechos de los niños que han perdido el cuidado familiar. Universidad Católica Boliviana: La Paz.

- Villanueva, J., Loots, G., Losantos, M., Exeni, S., Berckmans, I., and Derluyn, I. (2017). Reinsertion processes of children disengaged from armed groups in Colombia: what is the problem represented to be?. *Revista Eleuthera*, 16, 85-100. DOI: 10.17151/eleu.2017.16.6.
- Losantos, M. (2018). Podemos dejar la calle, ¿pero la calle nos dejará a nosotros?: voces de niños, niñas y adolescentes sobre su permanencia en situación de calle. Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo”: La Paz. Doctoral Dissertation
- Losantos, M. Guillén, N.; Gutiérrez, P.; Clementi, C. & Pacheco, R. (2019). *No le digan a nadie lo que les conté. Violencia contra la niñez y adolescencia: Una mirada desde las niñas, niños y adolescentes y el sistema formal e informal de protección*. Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo”: La Paz
- Losantos, M., Marfisi, L.; López, D. & Montecinos, A. (ed.) (2020). *Educarse en la calle: guía de intervención para educadores de calle*. Unicef: La Paz
- Guillén, N.; Gutiérrez, P.; Losantos, M. & Andrade, C. (2020). Análisis de las percepciones y preocupaciones de adolescentes con relación a la violencia infantil. *Ajayu: Órgano de difusión científica del Departamento de Psicología* [En Línea], 18 (1) 185-213, Available in https://www.ucb.edu.bo/publicaciones/ajayu/v18n1/v18n1_a08.pdf
- Losantos, M. (2020). ¿Por qué se quedan en las calles?: Aprendizajes sobre la permanencia de jóvenes en calle. *Quaderns de Psicologia*, 22(2) 2-21
- Losantos, M., Mostmans, L. & Peres-Cajías, G. (2020). Street children and social media: identity construction in the digital age. In Lelia Green, Donell Holloway, Kylie Stevenson, Tama Leaver, Leslie Haddon (Eds.). *The Routledge Companion to digital media and Children*. Routledge: UK.
- Losantos, M.; Arias, A. Gutierrez, - León, P., Andrade, C. & Mazó, J. (2020). *Procesos de transición a la vida autónoma de jóvenes en etapa de egreso y jóvenes egresados de las instituciones de protección. estudio realizado en las ciudades de La Paz, El Alto, Cochabamba y Santa Cruz*. Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo”- La Paz
- Losantos, M (2021). Transición a la vida autónoma de adolescentes que egresan de las instituciones de protección en Bolivia: un análisis desde el enfoque de derechos, años después. *Boletín IInfancia II*, 22-36. *Instituto Interamericano del Niño, la Niña y Adolescentes*.
- Alanez, D., Arias-Urión A; Artieda, N.; Bedoya, P; Durán, F.; Losantos, M. De Gumucio, M; Lucano, D.; Mazó, J.; Orellana, D.; Quintanilla, C; Vildoso, M; Villalobos, A. (2021). Violencia contra las mujeres en el contexto universitario *Revista Ajayu* 19 (2) 316-349.
- Losantos M, & Arias, A. (2021). *Análisis de la situación de los derechos de educación, protección y participación de niños, niñas y adolescentes en Bolivia*. Disponible en <https://asdbn.bolivia.bo/pdf/ASDBN.pdf>
- León, P. G., Losantos, E. M., Guillén, N., & Andrade, C. (2021). Percepciones sobre la violencia contra la niñez y la adolescencia en Bolivia. Una visión sistémica. *Revista sobre la infancia y la adolescencia*, (21), 19-30.
- Losantos, M. (en prensa). The question is will the street leave us: Care leavers with a street-connected past. *In Living on the Edge: Innovative international research on leaving care*. Policy Press: UK.
- Losantos, M.; Morales, N.; Andrade, C & Orellana, D. (2022). *Voices in action: Social determinants of children's right to participation in Bolivia*. Universidad Católica Boliviana
- Bedoya, P.; Losantos, M. & Morales, N. (2022). *Violencia contra la niñez y adolescencia en América Latina y el Caribe*. CELAM: Colombia
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