

## Wim Peumans, PhD



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date of birth: 18 September 1984  
marital status: married

### Biography

Wim Peumans is a writer and cooperative entrepreneur. He was a post-doctoral research fellow at the African Centre for Migration and Society, Wits University, in 2016, as a member of the Andrew Mellon funded project 'Governing Morality: Sexuality, Gender and Asylum in South Africa'. As a fellow of the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO - Vlaanderen), he obtained his PhD in social and cultural anthropology at the Interculturalism, Migration and Minorities Research Centre (KULeuven, 2015). He was a visiting trainee fellow at the School of Anthropology and Conservation (University of Kent – Canterbury) in 2014 – 2015. He is the author of two books, numerous articles and bookchapters.

### Current employment

2018 **Writer**, Lannoo Publishing, Belgium  
**Entrepreneur**, cooperative foodstore & café 'Gedeelde Weelde', Maastricht, Netherlands

Ongoing **Media & Events Manager**, practice for Tibetan Medicine 'De Blauwe Papaver', Kanne, Belgium

### Work experience

2016 **Post-doctoral research fellow**, African Centre for Migration and Society, University of the Witwatersrand (as part of the Andrew Mellon Foundation project 'Governing morality: sexuality, gender and migration in South Africa')

2014/9 – 2015/4 **Visiting Trainee Fellow**, School of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent  
- Canterbury

### Education

2010 – 2015 **Ph.D. in Social and Cultural Anthropology**, KULeuven, Belgium.  
Dissertation title: 'Unlocking the Closet. Same-sex desire among Muslim men and women'.  
Supervisors: Christiane Stallaert and Johan Leman  
Doctoral jury: Andrew Yip, Nadia Fadil, Saskia Wieringa, Ruba Salih  
2007 – 2009, **M.A. in Social and Cultural Anthropology**, KULeuven, Belgium. Magna cum laude.  
2002 – 2007, **B.A. in Political Sciences**, KULeuven, Belgium. Cum laude.

#### Languages

Dutch – native speaker  
English – fluent  
French – very good command  
German – good command  
Spanish – basic communication skills

#### Grants, awards and honours

2010 – Research Foundation Flanders Research Fellowship (2010-2015)  
2010 – Marguerite Lefèvre Award for Genderstudies (for master's thesis)

#### List of Publications

##### Books (monographs)

Peumans, W. (2017). *Queer Muslims in Europe: Sexuality, Migration and Religion in Belgium*. Gender & Islam series. London: IB Tauris, 288p.

Peumans, W. (2011). *Seks en Stigma over Grenzen Heen – Homoseksuele en Lesbische Migranten in Vlaanderen en Brussel*. [Sex and Stigma across Borders – Gay and Lesbian Migrants in Flanders and Brussels]. Leuven: Acco Uitgeverij, 208p.

##### Refereed Articles

Peumans, W. (2016). 'The moral breakdown between religion and sexuality in narratives of Muslim gays, bisexuals and lesbians in Belgium', *DiGeSt – Journal for Gender and Diversity Studies*, 3 (1), 39-56.

Peumans, W. (2014). 'Queer Muslim migrants in Belgium: a research note on same-sex sexualities and lived religion', *Sexualities*, 17, 5/6, pp. 618-631. **(2013 IF: 0,460)**

Peumans, W. (2012). 'To the Land of Milk and Honey: Migration to Belgium as a Stigma Management Strategy', in: *Studi Emigrazione/Migration Studies*, 49, 187, pp. 541-559.

Peumans, W. (2011). 'Nee, ik denk echt wel dat ik het ben': Homoseksualiteit bij Jongeren uit Etnische Minderheden ['No, I really think I am': Same-sex sexuality amongst ethnic minority youngsters] in: *WelWijs*, 22, 4, pp. 3 -7.

Peumans, W. (2011). 'In the Mood for Less Mobile Eroticism?' Corporeality and (Homo)sexuality in Performance Art by Artists with a Disability: A Story from Belgium, in: *Ethnographica Journal of Culture and Disability*, 1, 1, pp. 94 – 103.

Peumans, W. (2008). "'You Just Have to Shake Them Awake!' Experiences of Tourists with a Disability in Malta', in: *Omertaa – Journal for Applied Anthropology*, 33, pp. 250 – 259.

### Non-Refereed Articles

Peumans, W. (2008). 'Charlie Russell Wheaton – a gay black American immigrant in Europe. Narrative ethnography as a critique of ethnographic typification', in: *Ethnographica Online Journal*. 8, pp. 65-87.

### Chapters in edited volumes

Peumans, W. (2017). 'Same-sex sexualities and Belgian Moroccan communities', in: *50 years of Moroccan Migration in Belgium*. Noel Clycq, Nadia Fadil, Idesbald Goddeeris, Christiane Timmerman (eds.). Leuven: Leuven University Press.

Peumans, W. (2015). 'Sexual Subjectivities in a Transnational Social Field: The Family Visit', in: *Everyday Life Practices of Muslims in Europe*. Erkan Toguslu (ed.). Leuven: Leuven University Press.

Peumans, W. (2014). "'No Asians, Please": Same-sex Sexualities and Ethnic Minorities in Europe', in: *Hand Picked Stimulus Respond* (pp. 128 -139). Jack Boulton (ed.). London: Pavement Books.

Peumans, W. and Stallaert, C. (2012). 'Queering Conversion: Exploring New Theoretical Pathways to Understand Religious Conversion in a Western context', In: *Religion, Sexuality and Gender in Everyday Life* (pp. 109 -124). Peter Nynäs and Andrew K.T. Yip (eds.) Farnham: Ashgate.

### Book reviews

Hélie, A. and Hoodfar, H. (2015). 'Sexuality in Muslim Contexts: Restrictions and Resistance', in: *Journal of the Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Eurasia*.

Inhorn, Marcia C. (2013). 'The New Arab Man. Emergent Masculinities, technologies and Islam in the Middle East', in: *Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale*, 21, 2.

### Seminars organized

Peumans, W. & Palmay, I. 'Governing Morality: Sexuality, Gender and Migration'. ACMS Afternoon Seminar (25 May 2016, Johannesburg: University of the Witwatersrand)

### Panel abstracts

Cense, M. & Peumans, W. 'Minder in het kwadraat? Seksuele en genderdiversiteit onder etnische en culturele minderheden in België en Nederland', Congresdag LGBT onderzoek in de lage landen: state of the art en een blik op de toekomst (27 Oktober 2016, Antwerpen: Universiteit Antwerpen)

Peumans, W., Bartozzi, L., Sólveigar-Guðmundsdóttir, L. 'Same-sex Sexualities and Ethnic Minorities in Europe'. EASA2014: Collaboration, Intimacy & Revolution (31 July – 3 August 2014, Tallinn: Tallinn University)

Peumans, W. 'Sexual Migration to the Heart of Europe: Anthropological, Legal, Geographic and Activist Perspectives'. European Geographies of Sexualities (8 – 11 September 2011, Brussel: Royal Geographical Society UK)

### Paper abstracts

Peumans, W. 'De kast op een kier: holebi's met een moslimachtergrond in België', Congresdag LGBT onderzoek in de lage landen: state of the art en een blik op de toekomst (27 Oktober 2016, Antwerp: Universiteit Antwerpen)

Peumans, W. 'Intimacy across borders: same-sex sexualities and transnational migration in Belgium', *Proud In Europe? LGBTI Emancipation in Comparative Perspective* (4-5 August 2016, Amsterdam: University of Amsterdam)

Peumans, W. 'Unlocking the Closet: Towards an Understanding of Silence and Disclosure'. Gender and Silence - Hushed (Hi)stories of Power and Resilience in the Face of Modernity (7 November 2014, Leuven: KULeuven)

Peumans, W. 'Queer Muslim Migrants in Belgium: the Transformation of Sexual Subjectivity through Transnational Migration'. EASA2014: Collaboration, Intimacy & Revolution (31 July – 3 August 2014, Tallinn: Tallinn University)

Peumans, W. 'Moralities of Gender, Sexuality and Kinship: Navigating Silence and Disclosure in Kin Relationships'. Fourth International Conference of the International Network for Sexual Ethics and Politics: 'Sexualities and Freedoms'. (14 – 16 July, Ghent University)

Peumans, W. 'Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals with a Muslim Background on Holidays to their Roots: Multiple Belongings and Negotiating Sexual Subjectivities in a Transnational Social field'. Everyday Life Practices of Muslims in Europe (28 – 29 November 2013, Leuven: KULeuven)

Peumans, W. 'Man zkt. Vrouw: over Methodologie en Positionering in Etnografisch Onderzoek naar Holebi's met een Moslimachtergrond' ['Man seeks Woman: On methodology and positioning in ethnographic research on LGBT's with a Muslim background']. 'Genderstudies: een Genre Apart? Een stand van Zaken' (17- 18 October 2013, Brussels: Sophia)

Peumans, W. 'Transgressive Sexualities and First Generation Muslim Migration: Narratives from Belgium'. Radically Gay – The Life and Visionary Legacy of Harry Hay (27 – 30 September 2012, New York: City University of New York)

Peumans, W. 'Between Piety and Pleasure: Transgressive Sexualities and Religious Agency'. European Association for the Study of Religions Annual Conference (23 – 26 August 2012, Stockholm: Södertörn University)

Peumans, W. and Stallaert, C. 'Queering the Anthropology of Conversion: Exploring New Theoretical Pathways for the study of Islam related conversion in a Western Context'. The Politics of Living Spirituality/Religion and Gender/Sexuality in an Everyday Context (24 – 25 May 2011, London: Åbo Akademi University & University of Nottingham)

Peumans, W. 'Sexing up Migration Studies: Homosexual Identity and Stigma Management in Contemporary Migration Flows'. Trinity Immigration Initiative international conference (30 June – 2 July 2010, Dublin: Trinity College Dublin)

Peumans, W. 'Homosexual Identity, Stigma Management and Sexual Migration in Belgium'. Conference on Social Scientific Sexuality Research – Sexuality and Environment (22 May – 23 May 2010, Munich: German Society for Social Scientific Research of Sexuality)

Public Lectures, Guest Lectures and Seminars (\*by invitation)

Peumans, W., 'Queer Muslims in Belgium: Religion, Migration and Sexuality', 5 December 2016, INCISE, Christchurch University Canterbury.

Peumans, W., 'Holebi's met een moslimachtergrond in België', 29 November 2016, Leuven: KULeuven.

Peumans, W., 'Seksualiteit, migratie en religie: antropologische beschouwingen', 16 November 2016, Brussel: Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Sciences and Arts.

Peumans, W. 'Sexuality and gender in different asylum regimes: the Belgian case', 25 May 2015, ACMS

seminar 'Governing Morality: Sexuality, Gender and Asylum', Johannesburg: Wits University.

Peumans, W. 'Unlocking the closet: Coming out narratives of gay, lesbian and bisexual Muslims in Belgium', 12 April 2016, ACMS Lunch Seminar Series, Johannesburg: ACMS, Wits University.

Peumans, W. 'Coming out bij holebi's met een moslimachtergrond' ['Coming out amongst LGBs with a Muslim background'], 19 November 2015, Leuven: KULeuven.\*

Peumans, W. 'Seksuele migratie en religie in België' ['Sexual migration and Religion in Belgium'], 29 April 2013, Antwerp: University College of Antwerp.\*

Peumans, W. 'Seksuele migratie en religie in België' ['Sexual migration and Religion in Belgium'], 24 April 2013, Leuven: KULeuven.\*

Peumans, W. 'When Gay Men submit to Allah – Queering Conversion to Islam'. 14 May 2012, Paris: Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Paris.\*

Peumans, W. 'Seks en Stigma over Grenzen heen' ['Sex and Stigma across Borders'], 24 April 2012, Leuven: KULeuven.\*

Peumans, W. 'Seks en Stigma over Grenzen heen' ['Sex and Stigma across Borders'], 23 April 2012, Antwerp: University College of Antwerp\*

Peumans, W. 'Sex and Stigma across Borders: Gay Identity in a Migration Context', 9 February 2012, Brussel: Université Libre de Bruxelles.\*

Peumans, W. 'Seks en Stigma over Grenzen Heen' ['Sex and Stigma across Borders'], 15 May 2011, Antwerp: Het Roze Huis & Holebibib.\*

Peumans, W. 'Seks en Stigma over Grenzen Heen' ['Sex and Stigma across Borders'], 24 November 2010, Joetz: Brussels.\*

Peumans, W. 'Seks en Stigma over Grenzen heen: Theorie en Resultaten' ['Sex and Stigma across Borders: Theory and Results'], 17 March 2010 Leuven: K.U.Leuven.\*

Peumans, W. 'Sex and Stigma across Borders: Methodological Considerations', 4 March 2010, Leuven: KULeuven.\*

Peumans, W. 'Seks en Stigma over Grenzen heen: Methodologische Beschouwingen', ['Sex and Stigma across Borders: Methodological Considerations'], 3 March 2010, Leuven: KULeuven.\*

### Media coverage

#### Articles written for a non-academic audience

Peumans, W. 'Proud in Europe? LGBTI refugees, immigration services and the gay community in the EU, September 2016, Migratoin & Health Project South Africa Blog.

Peumans, W. 'Geloven vanuit je hart, dat is wat telt': Moslimholebi's over geloof en seksualiteit, August 2016, Antwerp Queer Arts Festival Blog.

Peumans, W. 'Exploring the intersections of gender and sexuality in migration studies', June 2016, Migration & Health Project South Africa Blog.

Peumans, W., 'God heeft me homo gemaakt en Hij heeft me geholpen naar Europa te komen, ['God made me gay and helped me come to Europe']', October 2015, ZemZem – tijdschrift over het Midden-Oosten, Noord-Afrika en islam.

Peumans, W., 'Dus je bent moslim en holebi...Vertel je dat aan je ouders?', ['So you are Muslim and gay... Do you tell your parents?'], October 2015, ZiZo Magazine.

#### Interviews in written and audiovisual media

- '2 op 3 Belgische homo's tevreden met hun seksleven', Interview with LGBT publication 'ZiZo magazine', april 2016.

- Radio-interview talkshow 'Talk Shop' (South African national radio 'SAfm'), 6 April 2016.

- Radio-interview 'Africa Midday' (South African national radio 'Channel Africa'), 5 April 2016.

- 'Over homoseksualiteit en etnie: er zijn nog veel problemen', Interview with weekly magazine 'Brussel Deze Week', 25 September 2015.

- 'Gevangen in de Draaideur', Interview with university weekly 'Campuskrant' (KULeuven), 27 May 2015.

- 'Via datingsites gezocht naar getuigenissen', Interview with national newspaper 'Het Belang van Limburg', 16 May

2015.

- 'Gekneld tussen holebigemeenschap en familie', Interview with national newspaper 'De Standaard', 15 May 2015.
- 'Romeo en Mohamed', Interview on national radio, 'Interne Keuken' (Radio 1 Flanders), 18 February 2012.
- Al-Nasser, S. 'Leerrijke spiegels voor de uitdagingen van onze samenleving'. Review of my book by 'De Wereld Morgen', 19 September 2011.
- Hofman, P. 'Seks en stigma over de grens'. Review of my book by 'GayKrant', 1 August 2011.
- 'Genderprijs voor thesis over seksuele migratie'. Interview with university weekly 'Campuskrant' (KULeuven), 18 November 2011.

### Memberships, service and other relevant activities

#### Current

- jury member masterthesis committee (Inter-university master Gender and Diversity Studies, Belgium)
- Editorial boardmember – 'Journal for Diversity and Genderstudies'
- Reviewer – 'Tijdschrift voor Genderstudies', 'Sexualities', 'Public Culture'
- Member - LGBT Forum Belgium
- Member Home and Sexuality Network (University of Kent, Canterbury)
- Member European Association of Social Anthropology
- Member European Network for Queer Anthropology (part of EASA)
- Founding member Network for Anthropology of Gender and Sexuality (part of EASA)

#### Past

- Assessor Masterstudent Social and Cultural Anthropology, KULeuven, 2012-2013
- Editor/Writer - website of asylum project çavaria (Flemish LGBT umbrella association) (funded by the European Refugee Fund). [URL: <http://asiel.cavaria.be/>], 2011
- Reviewer - 'Ethnographica Journal for Culture and Disability' (KULeuven), 2011
- Ph.D. student representative, Faculty of Social Sciences Commission of Ph.D. School, 2010 - 2012
- Member, Politika (student organization Faculty of Social Sciences), Social Workgroup. - organizing social events such as the debate 'Faces on Facts – An Immigrant's Story', 2006 - 2007

#### Volunteer work

- Member of cooperative 'Gedeelde Weelde', Maastricht, Netherlands, 2017 - ongoing.
- Media & Events Manager, 'De Blauwe Papaver', Kanne, Belgium, 2017 - ongoing
- Volunteer in organic bakery at 'De Wroeter', a social economy project for persons with a mental and social disability, Kortesseem, Belgium, September – November 2015.
- Lha Charitable Trust, drop-in teacher English conversation teacher for Tibetan refugees, Dharamshala, India, March – May 2014.

#### Continuing Education

- Course 'Sexuality and Morality: Intercultural Perspectives and Mediations' (ISCTE - University of Lisbon), September 2013.
- Gender Research Seminar: Key Concepts and Key Thinkers in Gender Theory (University of Ghent), 2012.
- Gender Research Seminar: Critical Theory (University of Ghent), 2010-2011.
- Anthropology Field school Malta. Organization: Expeditions – Research in Applied Anthropology, 2008