

Dvorakova, Antonie, Ph.D.

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BIO

Antonie Dvorakova has worked with Indigenous Nations during her M.A. studies in the Indigenous Nations Studies program at the University of Kansas, her Exchange Scholar and Academic Training appointments at Stanford University, during her Ph.D. studies in Comparative Human Development (with cultural psychology specialization) at the University of Chicago, and currently through several short-term fellowships in the United States of America.

Her research involves indigenous and racialized populations, whose members often live in socio-economically disadvantaged environments as well. In her interdisciplinary work, Dr. Dvorakova employs innovative cultural psychology approaches to study resilience among people who exhibited remarkable persistence and success in transcending various adversities, trauma and marginalization.

Because proper understanding must be built on the perspectives of the people involved, Dr. Dvorakova studies the culturally specific worldviews and lifeways salient within different tribal and racialized populations. Her research focuses on the ways in which members of Indigenous Nations and racialized populations transcended the limitations imposed on them by dominant/mainstream societies through structural and systemic conditions that create inequalities.

In general, this work has been untangling how socio-cultural and psychological differences affect and at the same time are affected by unlike historically based developments in heterogeneous socio-cultural and political contexts. She is currently working on a project to facilitate recognition of culturally specific tribal worldviews/values, stemming from historical tribal life-ways, as paths to decolonization and empowerment for Northern Cheyenne tribal members.