

Yuri Behari-Leak
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EDUCATION

2023 – 2024: **Bachelor of Laws, UCT (magna cum laude)**

- Class rank: 2/160.
- Awards and Prizes: Lexis Nexis Butterworths Prize (Civil Procedure), Ephraim Kluk Award for postgraduate international law research, Mike Blackman Memorial Prize (Corporation Law).
- Dean's Merit List (2023, 2024); Phillip Schock Scholarship, Law Faculty and Entrance Scholarships.
- Class Medals: Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Corporation Law.

2022: **Bachelor of Social Sciences Honours specialising in Psychology, UCT (first class)**

- Thesis: *Researchers' Stories About Doing Research on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence*, supervised by Professor Floretta Boonzaier.
- Awards and Prizes: J G Taylor Prize for Best Honours Research Project of the Year; Phyllis Reyburn Award for the highest grades in the Honours class.
- Member of the Hub for Decolonial Feminist Psychologies in Africa, UCT.

2018 – 2021: **Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology, Law, and Film & Television Studies), UCT (distinction)**

- Dean's Merit List (2018, 2019); Humanities Faculty Scholarship (2018, 2019, 2020).
- Class Medals: Analysing Film & TV, Initial Spanish B, Introduction to Sociology, Social & Developmental Psychology, Critical Psychology.
- Member of Golden Key International Honour Society (2019).

TUTORING AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2025 – present: **Public Law Teaching Assistant, UCT.**

- Leading small tutorial groups for Administrative Law, Evidence, and Criminal Law.
- Consulting with students, liaising with course convenors.
- Marking assignments and providing constructive guidance.
- Invigilating tests and exams.
- Leading Referencing and Mooting workshops.

2025: **Guest Lecturer, UCT.**

- Law: Final year in Administrative Law; intermediate year in Criminal Law.
- Psychology: Final year in Critical Psychology.

2021 – 2025: **Psychology Tutor, UCT.**

- Led small tutorial groups for various Psychology courses.
- Consulted with students, liaising with course convenors.
- Marked essays and assignments and providing constructive guidance.
- Invigilated tests and exams.

RESEARCH AND EDITORIAL ASSISTANCE

2025: Editorial Assistant, *South African Constitutional Law*, edited by Brickhill, Hassim, Bishop & Ramalekana.

2024 – 2025: Centre for Law and Society, UCT.

- Provided proofreading, copyediting, and reference management for academic articles as part of the Global Resistance to Authoritarian Diffusion Project.
- Proofread *Edwin Cameron: Influences and Impact* (2025), edited by Ally & Boonzaier.
- Supported the Amicus Lab with monitoring Constitutional Court case flow applications and strategic *amicus curiae* interventions.

2024: Research Assistance, Professor Mohamed Paleker, UCT.

- Researched and prepared materials on recent developments in succession and civil procedure.

2024: Research Assistance, Associate Professor Lee-Ann Tong, UCT.

- Researched and prepared materials on copyright and intellectual property law.

PUBLICATIONS

- Carr, K., & **Behari-Leak, Y.** (forthcoming). Is *Barbie* a feminist film? A decolonial feminist perspective. *Feminist Media Studies*.
- Daya, J., Mhlangulana, A., Mosime, L., Thusi, K., Zimri, C., **Behari-Leak, Y.**, Mpofu, T., Carr, K., Boonzaier, F., & Chirape, S. (2026). Researching ourselves, researching others: Making meaning of research on violence and trauma. In T. Shefer, C. Rustin, & F. Boonzaier (Eds.), *Reimagining Social Justice Scholarship: Creative Decolonial Feminisms in South Africa and Beyond*. Routledge.
- Ally, N. with **Y. Behari-Leak**, K. Hosking, L. Majola & L. Mazaleni. (2024). A Snapshot of the Constitutional Court's Docket – January to July 2024. *PER / PELJ*, 2024(27). <https://www1.saflii.org/za/journals/PER/2024/77.pdf>
- Mhlangulana, A., Zimri, C., Thusi, K., Mpofu, T., Mosime, L., Daya, J., Chirape, S., Carr, K., Boonzaier, F., & **Behari-Leak, Y.** (2024). Researching Violence, Researching Ourselves: Unsettling Knowledge Production on Gendered and Sexual Violence. *Social and Health Sciences*, 22(1), 15-pages. <https://doi.org/10.25159/2957-3645/12038>
- Behari-Leak, K., & **Behari-Leak, Y.** (2022). Critique today, theory tomorrow: Emerge-and-see. *International Journal for the Historiography of Education*, 12(2), 166 – 171. <https://elibrary.utb.de/doi/pdf/10.35468/IJHE-2-2022-03?download=true>

CONFERENCES

2023: Presented the documentary *Lean In* at the **27th annual Psychological Society of South Africa Conference**, Johannesburg, South Africa.

2022: Presented Honours thesis “*Researchers’ Stories About Doing Research on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence*” as part of the Unsettling Knowledge Production on Gendered and Sexual Violence in South Africa Project at the **26th annual Psychological Society of South Africa Conference**, Johannesburg, South Africa.

PROFESSIONAL AND MOOTING EXPERIENCE

2025: **Mooting Coaching and Training**

- Presented a training workshop for the UCT Moot Society.
- Led the Integrated Assessment Moot Training Workshop for the LLB final year class.
- Adjudicated the Final Year Integrated Assessments Moots.

2022 – 2024: **Forensic Psychology Assistant at Terence Dowdall Private Forensic Psychology Practice.**

- Assisted with care-and-contact assessments and matters involving divorce, theft, and domestic violence.

2020 – 2021: **Member and Treasurer of the UCT Constitutional Committee.**

- Resolved disputes under the UCT SRC Constitution; managed the Committee’s annual expenditure.

2019 – 2024: **Moot Society, UCT.**

- 2024: *Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot* – Best Written Memorials; Top Five Speaker; Finalist.
- 2024: *UCT Internal Moot* – Winner and Best Speaker.
- 2020: *Kate O’Regan Intersarsity Moot Competition* – Winner and Best Speaker; adjudicated by former Constitutional Court Justices O’Regan, Moseneke, Sachs, and Cameron.
- 2020: Bar Council Moot Prize.

CREATIVE AND INTERDISCIPLINARY PRACTICE

2025: **Director of feminist adaptation Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*, produced by the Masque Theatre.**

- Production received multiple Cape Amateur Theatre Award nominations including Best Play, Most Adventurous Production, and Best Director.

2023: **Director and producer of *Lean In*, a short documentary engaging decolonial feminist theory and gender-based violence.**

- Co-produced by the Hub for Decolonial Feminist Psychologies in Africa and UCT TV Studios.
- Screened at the 27th annual Psychological Society of South Africa Conference.