



SARCHI: Teacher Education  
(NRF)

The **Global Institute for Teacher Education and Society (GITES)** and the **SARCHI: Teacher Education** invites you to the monthly international webinar entitled:

## **Participatory research with marginalized adolescents at a German special school. Empowerment or just a show?**

**Date:** 28 February 2024

**Time:** 10:00 (South African time)/ 9:00 (German time)

**Chair:** Professor Zayd Waghid, Director (Acting), GITES, Faculty of Education

[Click on the link to register for the Webinar:](#)

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/fd27890f-84d3-4b9b-b9c1-9c6f885f058f@90bb22db-a73a-4971-b7d6-7ca3ef90cf06>

*Susanne Leitner will present and critically reflect on a participatory research project with student teachers and marginalized youth at a special needs school in Germany. In this project, students and special needs pupils have worked together in mixed groups to pursue questions relevant to them in terms of school, collected and analysed data and presented results. Later, the project participants were invited to reflect on the project and its sustainability. While, on the one hand, experiences of empowerment and encouragement were reported, regarding hegemonic structures, it remains to be critically questioned to what extent such a project is actually suitable to insert (critical) first-person knowledge into pedagogical discourses as a voice to be taken seriously - or to what extent it is just a pedagogical show.*



Susanne Leitner holds a PhD in special education and has worked as a social worker for several years. She is a junior professor for inclusion education in the so-called special educational focus of emotional and social development at the Ludwigsburg University of Education. Her research interests focus on anti-discriminatory perspectives on educational work with young people in psychosocially challenging life situations.