



# Social Welfare and Social Development: The Challenges for Social Work and Community Development Education in a Democratic South Africa

**Margie Maistry**

Professor of social development, University of Fort Hare, East London, South Africa

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238 HRCB**

Margie Maistry's research interests include community development and developmental welfare; identity, culture, feminism, and gender studies; spirituality and human values; development of indigenous knowledge; and participatory action research and learning methods. Maistry joined the University of Fort Hare faculty in January 2001, where she is responsible for curriculum development and teaching of social and community development; entrepreneurship and community development; diversity and culturally sensitive social work practice; management and administration of human service organisations; and research in the undergraduate program. In the graduate program, she has sole responsibility for curriculum development and facilitation of the master's in social science degree; coursework papers in development and poverty; and community management and leadership. And she supervises the fieldwork practice and research. Previous to her current position, she was the Africa region program manager for Volunteer Service Abroad (VSA) based in Wellington, New Zealand. VSA works in partnership with local communities in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific. She had also worked in several capacities with women and children since 1986. Maistry received a BA in social work from the University of South Africa (Pretoria), an MA in social science: women and gender studies from the University of Natal (Durban) and the University of Waikato (New Zealand), and a PhD in social and community development education from the University of Fort Hare (Alice).