“Disability and Indian indentured labour in the South Pacific”

This paper considers the intersection of histories of labour, leprosy and disability in the construction of histories of disability in the Pacific. It argues that colonial networks of migration, labour and capital contributed to the disabling of Indian indentured labourers not only by identifying leprosy as a marker of unfitness to participate in the plantation labour economy but in the economic and social disabling consequent upon their diagnosis.