

# **Janet de Merode, PhD**

**Adjunct Faculty - School of Psychology at Fielding Graduate University**

Alexandria, VA, US

International Psychology, Media and Social Advocacy expert

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## **Description**

Janet de Merode brings over 25 years of experience working on problems of poverty in Africa and Asia to her current teaching and research in psychology. Of particular interest to her are methods to improve access of needy populations to health services and education. She formerly served as Director of the Population, Health and Nutrition Research Department of the World Bank; and prior to that, led teams responsible for public health and education investment in West Africa, from village to tertiary level. She has also worked on teams addressing pollution and clean power in China, promoting agro-industries development in India, and food security in Indonesia.

Educated at Northwestern and Johns Hopkins Universities, Janet worked briefly in daily print journalism before joining the World Bank as a microeconomist. After working in over 20 low-income countries, she became convinced that health and social justice—particularly of poor and disenfranchised populations—was underserved in public policy and research agendas, and that the new media technologies could bring innovative approaches. For example, she founded an internet-based company facilitating bulk procurement services for buyers and suppliers of basic medicines in developing countries.

Janet holds a PhD in psychology from Fielding Graduate University, with a concentration in media psychology, i.e., the impact of media on human behavior. She continues to serve as a consultant to various UN agencies and nonprofits working to address poverty and improve public health. From 2011–2013, she was Lead Faculty helping to create a PhD program in International Psychology at The Chicago School for Professional Psychology, Washington, DC campus. There she taught and mentored doctoral students in contemporary issues of mental health around the globe.

Janet is currently an APA Health Disparities Ambassador, and earlier served as a Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer for the CDC/APA Socioeconomic Status Related Cancer Disparities Program in the United States.

In addition to the use of technology and the Web 2.0 for social advocacy, Janet's research interests include biculturalism, the lives of emigrants, sequelae of refugee children, and cross-cultural perspectives on ethics and health.

Janet is a dual citizen of the United States and Belgium, and lives in Washington, DC.

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## **Industry Expertise**

Education/Learning, Mental Health Care, Health and Wellness, Media Production, Research, Writing and Editing, Training and Development, Program Development

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## **Topics**

Global Media, Social Advocacy, Media Psychology, International Psychology, Psychological Well Being of Refugees, Sequelae of Child Refugee Trauma, Lives of Emigrants, Biculturalism, Use of Technology With Non- or Low-Literate Populations, Qualitative Research Methods, Use of Media in Research, Social Marketing, Corporate Social Responsibility

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## **Affiliations**

American Psychological Association: Member Division 52 (International Psychology), American Psychological Association: Member Division 46 (Media Psychology), Psychologists for Social Responsibility : Member, United Nations Development Fund for Women : Member, Data Analysts for Social Good : Member

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## **Education**

**Fielding Graduate University**  
PhD Media Psychology

**Fielding Graduate University**  
MA Psychology

**Johns Hopkins University**  
MA School for Advanced International Studies

**Northwestern University**  
BSJ Medill School of Journalism

**Center for Creative Leadership**  
Executive Leadership Development Program Leadership for Creativity and Innovation

**National Council for Behavioral Health**  
Certificate Mental Health First Aid Responder

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## **Accomplishments**

**Chevalier de l'Ordre Nationale**  
Awarded by the Republic of Mali in recognition of Dr. De Mode's contribution to the nation's development.

**Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology**  
Psi Chi (ΨΧ), the International Honor Society in Psychology, is dedicated to encouraging, stimulating, and maintaining excellence in scholarship, and advancing the science of psychology.

**Teaching Excellence Award, Finalist**  
The Chicago School of Professional Psychology

**Early Career Award in Media Psychology and Technology**  
Granted by APA Division 46 Media Psychology and Technology

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