

1 Introduction

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Introduction

This introduces the reader to key concepts within the scope of this book and provides an overview of the chapters. This book offers a unique overview of critical global issues in tourism that have previously been overlooked. With an overarching interrelationship theme of tourism and family violence, this book examines critical issues such as war, child abduction, technology abuse, mental disorders, natural disasters, media framing, children, legal intersections, and LGBTQIA+ youth. This is the first interdisciplinary book of this type. Whilst various books examine some aspects that are discussed in this book, this is the first that pulls these issues together into one interdisciplinary book.

The overarching theme for each chapter is the interrelationship between tourism and family violence. Family violence is a significant problem around the world and is at the heart of considerable research these days. Crime statistics and police data consistently highlight that family violence incidents increase markedly during peak holiday periods such as the Christmas-New Year period. Similarly, other major holiday periods and major sporting events also reveal a spike in family violence incidents. Yet, the topic of family violence has not received much attention within tourism research.

This book provides readers with 13 chapters that explore critical issues in tourism within the intersection of tourism and family violence framework. The chapters cover a range of important topics and come from academics from different countries, therefore providing readers with a global perspective. Each research chapter can be read in isolation; there is no need to read them sequentially. However, some make reference to content from previous chapters and build on points provided in earlier chapters. In particular, Chapters 4 and 5, as well as Chapters 10 and 11, are connected. Chapter 5 extends some of the discussions from Chapter 4. Similarly, some aspects raised in Chapter 10 are then extended in Chapter 11. An overview of each chapter is provided here after an overview of the key aspects of family violence.