

# research

## ANTI-RACIST EDUCATION

Sherene Razack

How is racism enacted, performed and constructed?

*"I see my work in the interest of social change. I want to affect change in people who are already committed to social justice and in those who want to know more about how injustice occurs, how it is organized, and how we can prevent it."*

– Sherene Razack

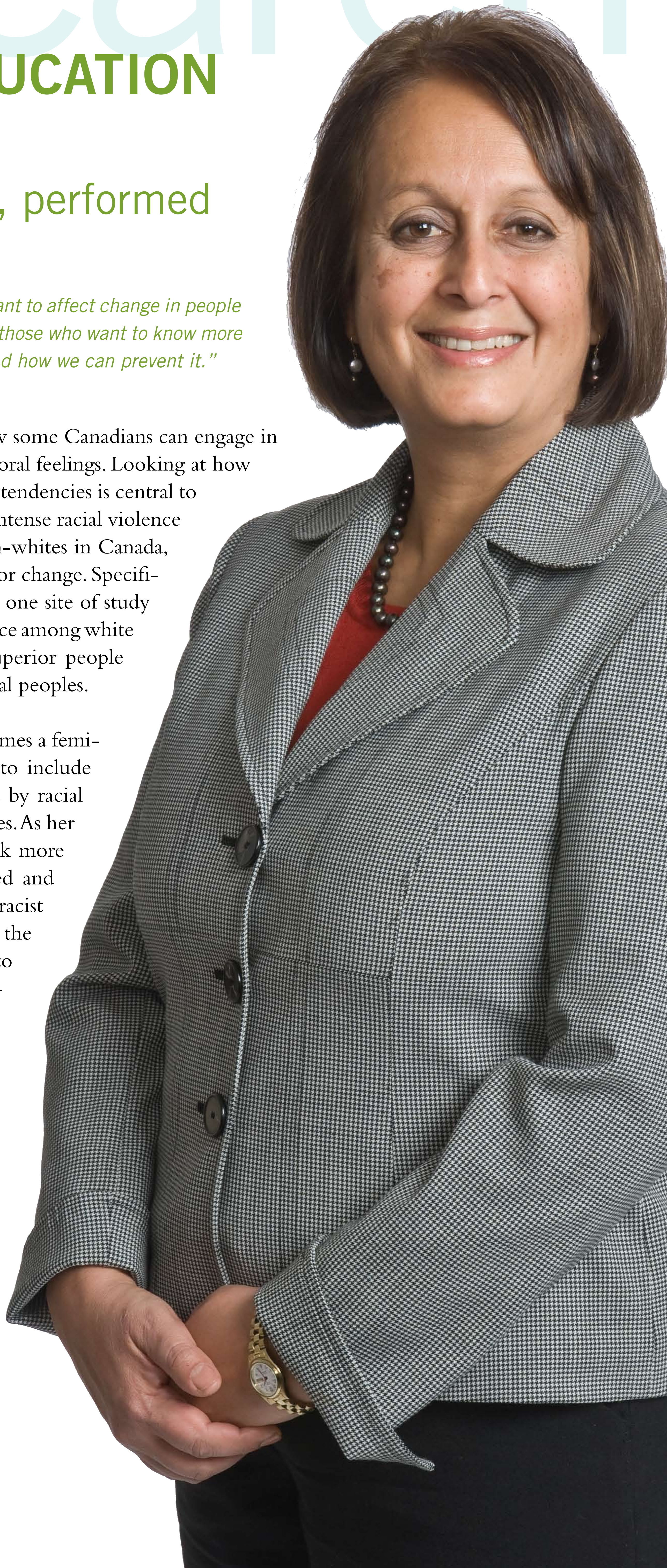
Sherene Razack tries to understand why and how some Canadians can engage in racist behaviour and still experience good and moral feelings. Looking at how to enhance people's awareness of their own racial tendencies is central to Sherene's work. For example, she studies sites of intense racial violence such as those that exist between whites and non-whites in Canada, and uses them to build knowledge and capacity for change. Specifically, Aboriginal communities in Canada provide one site of study where Sherene's work uncovers the roots of violence among white Canadians, some of whom see themselves as superior people who must control, teach, and discipline Aboriginal peoples.

By locating her research in an anti-racist, and at times a feminist perspective, Sherene's scholarship broadens to include a study of women and how they are implicated by racial violence within Canadian Aboriginal communities. As her work evolves, Sherene pushes Canadians to think more actively about how racism is enacted, performed and constructed. She challenges Canadians to see racist thoughts and actions as part of the workings of the global issue of racism, and encourages Canadians to think about how they can contribute more positively to change racist behaviours.

Sherene's research on *Race and Violence against Aboriginal People* is supported by the Connaught Fund at the University of Toronto.

For more information about Sherene's research and the impact of her work, please visit [http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/oise/About\\_OISE/Issues\\_That\\_Matter\\_in\\_Education.html](http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/oise/About_OISE/Issues_That_Matter_in_Education.html)

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