

JOB POSTING – POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW

Area of research – Cyber-Violence Against Professionals Serving the Public

Posting Date: February 2023

Research Overview:

With advances in technology and the ubiquity of social media, cyber-violence - threats and other harmful communication expressed through electronic means - has arisen as a new medium for harassment and violence against professionals, such as teachers, child welfare social workers, and public health officials. In the digital world, those imposing violence can remain anonymous, can transcend time and space blurring the boundaries of work and home, can reach a wide audience, and are almost impossible to control. To date, research has not determined the extent of harm arising from cyber-violence against professionals serving the public, factors that may increase vulnerability, or factors that may mitigate or exacerbate harm. The successful candidate will join a team comprised of faculty in social science, computer science, and public health science. The position will focus on two intersecting projects:

- Collection and both quantitative and qualitative examination of violent and harassing social media posts against specific professional groups (e.g., child welfare workers and public health professionals) on platforms such as TikTok, Reddit, and Twitter
- The design and administration of survey research with specific professional groups to determine the extent and impacts of experiences with cyber-violence by clients and members of the public.

Description of Duties:

- Project management and supervision of research assistants
- Identifying and collecting social media posts targeting individuals in specific human service professions
- Applying statistical modelling to analyze data from social media posts
- Participation in survey and interview design, administration, and analysis
- Contributing to and co-authoring scholarly manuscripts through data analysis and synthesis, literature reviews, and writing.

Required Qualifications:

The successful candidate will have completed a PhD in a relevant field (such as computer science, statistical science or data science). Applicants who are near completion of a PhD will also be considered. The successful candidate will have a strong record of scholarly achievements for stage of career and expertise in collecting and analysing data from social

media platforms. The candidates should have strong written and verbal communication skills, organizational skills, and a track record of success working both independently and with a research team. Previous work in the area of workplace violence or stress and trauma in the workplace would also be an asset.

Salary: \$70,000

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

All individuals interested in the position must submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae (CV), and contact information for three academic references to **Professor Cheryl Regehr** (provost@utoronto.ca) by the closing date.

Closing date: April 1 2023

Supervisor: Professor Cheryl Regehr

Expected start date: May 1 2023 (negotiable)

Term: 1 year

FTE: Full-time – 40 hours per week

Employment as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto is covered by the terms of the CUPE 3902 Unit 5 collective agreement.