

# **Climate Change and the Psychosocial Consequences of Flooding: Reexamining Vulnerability and Risk**

*Andrew Crabtree*

*Copenhagen Business School*

## **Abstract**

The Pressure and Release (PAR) model (Wisner et al.) is one of the most enduring conceptualizations of risk within disaster research. Risk is defined as a function of a hazard (in our case a flooding event) and vulnerability. Vulnerability has social root causes (Power, structures, resources, ideology and economic systems). Drawing on epidemiological studies and my own qualitative work following the 2008 Kosi River flooding, I argue that the model needs to be redrawn to include culture, capabilities and expectations if we are going to understand the nature of vulnerability. Deep social cultural changes may be the most important need in improving people's mental health following a flood.