



CENTRE FOR
GENDER STUDIES



EVENTS AND SEMINARS ORGANISED BY THE CENTRE FOR GENDER STUDIES (CGF) KARLSTAD UNIVERSITY, SPRING 2018

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14, 15.15-16.45, HUS 5A:415

The performative effects of diagnosis: gender, intimacy and being a war veteran with PTSD

Sebastian Mohr, Center for Gender Studies, Karlstad University

This presentation will explore the performative effects of being diagnosed with PTSD in Danish war veterans' intimate and sexual lives. Based on biographical interviews with veterans from Denmark, the focus is on how medical diagnoses interplay with veterans gendered and sexual self-perceptions leading to changes in how they enter and live intimate relationships.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 28, 15.15-16.45, HUS 5A:415

Explaining the right-wing populist paradoxes: An intersectional perspective on extreme political masculinities

Ov Cristian Norocel, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow, Université libre de Bruxelles (Belgium)

To date, there are few explanations concerning the paradoxes of right-wing populism: privileged white men proclaiming themselves the true voices of white working class (men and women) against allegedly corrupt elites, and threatening migrant Other (men). In my study, I suggest a way to address these paradoxes by employing superordinate intersectionality as a theoretical perspective to examine how the right-wing populist discourses depict political masculinities through the interactions between several axes of difference and inequality: gender (masculinities); sexuality (heterosexuality); social class (elites); and race (whitenesses). In so doing I focus on the junctions between the field of critical masculinities studies and that of right-wing populism, which enables an analysis of the gendered nature of right-wing populist ideology. I illustrate these theoretical articulations with examples from the US, as well as from Finland and Sweden.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 28, 15.15-16.45, HUS 5A:415

Co-arranged seminar CGF and Social Work, Karlstad University

The Forever Road: liminality among queer refugees looking for a home

Thomas Wimark, Department of Human Geography, Stockholm University

As people continue to flee repressive regimes, discussions of refugees' state of liminality has intensified.

Spaces such as refugee camps and detention centres tend to force refugees to endure living in liminality for long periods of time. In this presentation, I focus on the actual experiences of movement from the old country to the receiving one. Widening the discussion on liminality to focus on the road to refuge, I argue that the road should be considered a metaphor for the connection between the old and the new place of belonging. Using material from interviews with queer refugees in the Swedish countryside, I discuss their travels on the road to inclusion. These stories lead to the development of the Forever Road where true belonging can never be achieved. Excerpts from the interviews show that refugees' ways of being both put them on the road and keep them on the road. At the heart of this concept lies structures that govern entrance to and exist from the road. In the end, I argue that this way of thinking of liminality moves discussions away from refugees' bodies and illuminates structures governing the Forever Road.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 11, 15:00 – 16:30, HUS 5F:322

Trans bodies, affects and vulnerability (double seminar)

Pink-black block activism, vulnerability and trans politics

Luca Tainio, University of Tampere

My paper addresses notions of radical vulnerability, emotions and experiences within pink-black blocks as well as wider grassroots activism. I am asking what does activism feel like, what inspires action and how can we use notions such as love, rage and vulnerability in our work as activists but also as scholars. I am approaching my material within the theoretical frame of trans studies, and discussing my questions through and with interviewees from different anarchist projects and collectives. The seminar will be based on a circulated text.

Toxic matter. Anthropocentric affects and trans bodies in art and film

Wibke Straube, Center for Gender Studies, Karlstad University

Following Malin Ah-King and Eva Hayward's problematisation of the "politics of purity" I will investigate in this talk discourses on toxicity, the history of transgender bodies as 'impure' and the linkages between ecological affects and ethics of response-ability (Haraway) in the Anthropocene. By wondering how trans bodies in particular will be and are affected by the environmental crisis and climate change I trace how the intersection of ecology and trans bodies is interrogated in art and film.

WEDNESDAY MAY 9, 15:00 – 16:30, HUS 5A:415

Why are we brothers? Male siblings and the masculine mystique of required affection.

Andreas Henriksson, Center for Gender Studies, Karlstad University

Many societies uphold a social requirement of affection between male siblings. Not rarely, it is the only socially required same-sex affection that men encounter besides filial love. However, how is this affection and its requirement understood? And how does it speak to the masculinity that brothers share? In this presentation, I draw on interviews with brothers in Namibia and Sweden, as well as cultural representations of brotherhood, to discuss loyalty, violence, collaboration, obedience and other forms through which brotherly love is lived and narrated.

JUNE 19-20, 2018

WORKSHOP - LEGACIES OF SOCIAL INJUSTICES

The Center for Gender Studies, Karlstad University and the research network "Ongoing Legacies of Discrimination and Violence Network" (OLIRN) at the Fay Gale Centre for Gender Studies, University of Adelaide

We are currently observing an increasingly polarised political landscape in the Western world and beyond. Many groups are being targeted and marginalised, in particular those who transgress normative boundaries, national borders and sentiments of national belonging. These groups include refugees, gender non-conforming people, indigenous populations, migrants and disabled people. What are the legacies of these contemporary social injustices? Can past experiences help us understand them? And how do we do justice to, represent, and continue to learn from such legacies? In this workshop we will address various states of vulnerability and transgression.

Topics to be addressed at the workshop might include (but is not limited to): migration, incarceration, child protection, legacies of conflict and war, sexual violence, aging and health, re-imaginings of the future. For more information about the network, please visit: <https://www.adelaide.edu.au/gender/research/olirn/>.

We invite submissions that address legacies of social injustice, vulnerability and transgression. To present at the conference, please send an abstract of no more than 300 words and a short bio to: david.oborn@kau.se. Deadline: May 1, 2018.