

# **Vulnerability, Precarity, and Human Rights**

*a one-day symposium exploring the intersections among gender, sexuality, race, and disability in transnational contexts*

19th September 2014

George Mason University, Arlington Campus, School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution:  
3434 Washington Blvd, 5th Floor, Rm 5183

9.00 Welcome and Opening Remarks

9.30 - 11.15 **Vulnerability, Ethics and Co-Habitation**

(Chair: Rachel Jones: George Mason University)

Katie Oliviero (Women's and Gender Studies, Dickinson College)

'Vulnerability's Ambivalent Political Life: The Racialized and Gendered Biopolitics of Protection'

Erinn Gilson (Philosophy, University of North Florida)

'Vulnerability, Ambiguity, and Sexual Violence'

Lisa Eckenwiler (Philosophy, George Mason University)

'Ethical Place Making and Global Health Equity'

11.15 - 11.30 Coffee

11.30 - 12.45 **Vulnerability, Gender and Bodies in Protest**

(Chair: Sara Cobb, George Mason University)

Sara Mitcho (Cultural Studies, George Mason University)

'The Problem of Categorical Vulnerability: An Exploration of Women's Protest in the U.S.'

Leslie Dwyer (Anthropology; Center for the Study of Gender & Conflict, George Mason University)

'Demanding Vulnerable Subjects: Gender and Narrative Constraint in Post-Conflict Indonesia'

12.45 - 1.45 Lunch

1.45 - 3.30 **Vulnerabilities, Human Rights and Asylum Narratives**

(Chair: Paula Ruth Gilbert, George Mason University)

Wendy S. Hesford (English; Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Ohio State University)

'Contingent Vulnerabilities: Child Soldiers as Human Rights Subjects'

Jane Juffer (English; Feminist, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Cornell University)

'Can the Children Speak? Precarious Lives at the U.S./Mexico Border'

Amy Shuman (English; Folklore; Disability Studies, Ohio State University)

'The Uncomfortable Meeting Grounds of Different Vulnerabilities: Disability and the Political Asylum Process'

3.30 - 3.45 Coffee

3.45 - 5.00 **Queering Vulnerability, Precarity and Human Rights**

(Chair: Amy Shuman, Ohio State University)

Ricardo Vivancos Pérez (Modern & Classical Languages, George Mason University)

'Vulnerability and Queerness in *Orange Is the New Black*'

Rachel Lewis (Women & Gender Studies, George Mason University)

'Queering Vulnerability: Visualizing Black Lesbian Desire in post-Apartheid South Africa'

5.00 Closing Remarks and Discussion

*Sponsored by the following Departments and Programs at GMU: African and African American Studies, Center for the Study of Gender and Conflict, Cultural Studies, Modern and Classical Languages, Office of Disability Services, Philosophy, & Women & Gender Studies*