

Reflecting on Abolition Feminism and Transformative Justice Theory and Praxis: Healing, Restoration and Transformation

In cooperation with the GRADE Center Gender

Objective

In this workshop, we draw on an Abolition Feminism framework that conceptualizes the prison as part of a network of violence that deflects attention from the root causes of harm and neglects the role of healing, restoration, and transformation. We also explore the role of joy in Transformative Justice and activism.

Description

The Covid-19 pandemic has seen a reinforcement of prisons, other institutions in the prison industrial complex, and carceral logics, rather than seizing the moment to invest in community-led initiatives that centre healing and care. The reality that women, men, non-binary, other gender expansive, and diverse people and children continue to be incarcerated means that as a society we support or at best acquiesce to systemic dehumanization (Gilmore 2007, 243). This is something that can and is being challenged in a myriad of ways. Through our Abolition Feminism framework, we reconnect with Black feminist roots that point us to “the development of integrated analysis and practice based upon the fact that the major systems of oppression are interlocking” (Combahee River Collective [1977], 2017, 15).

Methodology

This draws on the Kitchen Table method that enables for a relaxed dialogue around aspects of Transformative Justice and its connection with joy and activism. We will incorporate a range of teaching methods e.g., self-reflective exercises, multimedia activities, group work to create a more interactive and collaborative learning environment.

Conditions

Everyone with an interest in the topic is welcome to join the workshop.

No preparation for this workshop is needed.

However, if you would like to undertake some research prior to the sessions, you are welcome engage with the suggestions for the individual sessions listed on the website of the Cornelia Goethe Center.

Organizational Information

Language / Format	English / On campus
Target group	Doctoral Candidates at all stages and Postdocs from all faculties
Date	Wednesday, 19 July 2023, 16:00 – 18:00 Thursday, 20 July 2023, 10:00 – 15:00
Registration	Previous registration is required. To register, please write an e-mail to Anmeldung_CGCentrum@soz.uni-frankfurt.de , by June 28, 2023, at the latest. Further information: https://www.cgc.uni-frankfurt.de/

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Dr. Fabienne Emmerich
Keele University

She is a Law Lecturer at Keele University in the UK. She is Institutional Lead for the North West Social Sciences Doctoral Training Partnership and Lead for the Gender, Sexuality, and Law Research Cluster at Keele. Fabienne is holder of a Leverhulme Fellowship for her project “Swimming against the current: women, prison reform and resistance” (2019-2021). Her research interests include Punishment, Resistance and Gender; Transformative Justice and Abolition Feminism; and Queering legal studies.



Flick Adams
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She is an Associate Lecturer at The Open University, Doctoral Researcher at Keele University and a Facilitator. Flick’s research interests include queer and feminist theories and approaches, trans studies with a specific focus on PIC abolition, and anti-carceral, community and transformative Justice theories and practices. Flick’s doctoral project sits at the intersection of Gender, Sexuality and Law and Socio-Legal Approaches.

