

# GENDER AND THE POLITICS OF “TRADITIONAL” MUSLIM PRACTICES

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2008  
CRYSTAL ROOM, ALUMNAE HALL

In cases where Muslim women and girls are seen as needing to be rescued and advocacy seems imperative—as with honor crimes, female circumcision, early marriage—structural analyses of issues apart from gender can fall away, thus producing little new knowledge and reinforcing stereotypes of Muslim backwardness versus Western modernity. The participants in this conference will look at alternative ways to view so-called “traditional” Muslim practices. They will look at instances where everything from local politics to transnational economics might contribute to a given practice, and where the political, the socio-economic, or the cultural might be the most important factors to consider

9:00-9:30

Leti Volpp *School of Law, University of California, Berkeley*  
*Opening Remarks*

9:30-11:30

Dicle Kogacioglu *Sociology, Sabanci University*  
*“Gender in Tradition: A Kaleidoscope of Colonialisms?”*

Lila Abu-Lughod *Anthropology, Columbia University*  
*“The Scandal of Honor Crimes: Liberalism and the Circulation of Rights Discourses”*

*Moderator* Leti Volpp

1:00-3:00

Sherene Razack *Sociology, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education*  
*“Multiculturalism vs Feminism, Round Two: Feminist Responses to Violence against Muslim Women”*

Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian *Faculty of Law, Hebrew University*  
*“‘Security Theology,’ Global Economy of Fear and Violence against Women in Conflict Zones: The Palestinian Case Study”*

*Moderator* Sherine Hamdy *Anthropology, Brown University*

3:15-6:30

Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf *Anthropology, Qatar University*  
*“Transforming the Gendered Self in Northern Sudan”*

Annie Bunting *Law and Society, York University*  
*“An Analysis of ‘Promoting Muslim Women’s Rights through Sharia in Northern Nigeria’: A Development Strategy?”*

Arzoo Osanloo *Law, Societies and Justice Program, University of Washington*  
*“When Blood Has Been Spilled: Unraveling the Gendered Logistics of Islamic Criminal Sanctioning in Iran”*

*Moderator* Elliott Colla *Middle East Studies, Brown University*

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