

Celebrating Intersectionality? Debates on a multi-faceted Concept in Gender Studies.

Over the last decade, the concept of 'intersectionality' has attracted much attention in international feminist debates. It was embraced as well as repelled by many scholars and at the same time, it has made an incredible international career. Twenty years after the concept was coined by Kimberlé Crenshaw in 1989, it seems appropriate to bring together protagonists as well as critics and discuss the 'state of the art' with those that have been influential in this debate

Part I. (Why) Are Gender Studies in need of intersectionality?

This introductory session focuses on the history and the relevant research questions raised within the intersectionality debate. What are the specific social and historical conditions contributing to a specific development of the intersectionality debate in various regions of the world and different historical periods? Why is intersectionality rooted in the black American Women's movement?

Part II. Intersectionality – a transatlantic success story.

European and American gender studies scholars discuss the transatlantic travelling of this concept. What problems arise with the 'translation' and accommodation of this concept in a transnational context? What is lost and what is gained in translation from the US American to a European context? To what extent is the use of the concept limited by 'methodological nationalism'? How can the limits be challenged?

Part III. Intersectionality in different disciplines.

In this third part the broad and multi-faceted use of intersectionality in various fields of gender studies will be deployed. Are there specific advantages in using intersectionality in various disciplinary approaches? What are the differences between them? When, where and how can the concept be used empirically? How should the development of the concept proceed and how should it be linked to other theories/theoretical tools?

Responsible:

Prof. Helma Lutz
Women and Gender Studies, Department of Social Sciences and the Cornelia Goethe Center for Women's and Gender Studies.

Location:

The conference will be held at the Goethe-University Frankfurt, Campus Westend, Room 1.801

Travel Information:

Take the underground lines U1, U2 or U3 to "Holzhausenstraße" (10 minute walk) or S-Bahn lines 1-6 and get off at "Konstablerwache", then change to bus line 36 direction "Westbahnhof" to "Uni Campus Westend".

Participation Fee:

75 Euro (regular)
30 Euro (reduced)

Conference Language:

English

Registration:

www.cgc.uni-frankfurt.de/intersectionality
End of registration: 09.01.2009

Information:

intersectionality@soz.uni-frankfurt.de

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Cornelia Goethe Centrum
für Frauenstudien und die Erforschung der Geschlechterverhältnisse

Consulaat-Generaal van het
Koninkrijk der Nederlanden

Celebrating Intersectionality?

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January 22 and 23, 2009
International Conference at the
Goethe-University Frankfurt
Campus Westend, Room 1.801

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Thursday 22-1-2009

10.00-10.30 Welcoming speech by the acting (Vice-)President of the Goethe-University, by the Director of the Cornelia Goethe Centrum and the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences.

Part I. (Why) Are Gender Studies in need of intersectionality?

10.30-11.00 Helma Lutz: *Coexisting inequalities and other pitfalls of the debate on intersectionality*. Introduction to the conference as inaugural lecture.

11.00-11.30 Kimberlé Crenshaw (University of California, LA): *Intersectionality – reflections on a twenty year old concept*.

11.30-12.00 Nira Yuval Davis (University of East London): *Intersectionality and stratification*.

12.00-12.15 Coffee break

12.15-13.15 Panel discussion with the speakers, chair: Uta Ruppert (Frankfurt)

13.15-14.30 Lunch

Part II. Intersectionality – a transatlantic success story.

14.30-15.00 Kathy Davis (University of Utrecht) *Intersectionality in transatlantic perspective*.

15.00-15.30 Gudrun Axeli Knapp (Leibniz University of Hanover) *Social theoretical perspectives on intersectionality*.

15.30-16.00 Myra Marx Ferree (University of Wisconsin): *Intersectional framing: The implications of American and European approaches for feminist politics*.

16.00-17.00 Panel discussion with the speakers, chair: Kira Kosnick (Frankfurt)

19.00 Dinner

Friday 23-1-2009

Part III. Intersectionality in different disciplines.

9.00-9.30 Ann Phoenix (Institute of Education, University of London): *Psychosocial intersections: Contextualising the accounts of adults from transnational families*.

9.30-10.00 Gloria Wekker (University of Utrecht) *A Dutch picturebook: Moments in a multi-ethnic society*.

10.00-10.30 Birgit Sauer (University of Vienna): *Diversity policies. Intersectionality as a challenge to politics and political science*.

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-11.30 Mechthild Bereswill (University of Kassel): *Theorizing masculinity in the perspective of intersectionality*.

11.30-12.00 Dubravka Zarkov (Institute of Social Studies, The Hague) *Exposures, invisibilities, vulnerabilities: Master narratives of war and masculinities in an intersectional perspective*.

12.00-12.30 Paula Villa (University of Munich): *Embodiment is always more: pro's and con's of an intersectional approach towards the body*.

12.30-13.30 Panel discussion with the speakers, chair: Brita Rang (Frankfurt)

Part IV. What is to be done? Towards the development of a full fledged theory?

15.00-15.30 Jeff Hearn (Linköping University, Sweden; Swedish School of Economics, Helsinki, Finland; and University of Huddersfield, UK) : *Neglected intersectionalities in studying men: age/ing, virtuality, transnationality*.

15.30-16.00 Nina Lykke (University of Linköping) *Intersectional analysis in feminism - between conflicts and synergies*.

16.00-16.30 Cornelia Klinger (Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna) *When the celebrations are over ... Intersectionality and the long road to theory*.

16.30-17.00 Gail Lewis (Open University, Milton Keynes): *'But how can I live intersectionally?!' Experience and the limits of words*.

17.00 - 18.00 Panel discussion with the speakers.

