

## **FRI Gender Law Conference, 9-10 February 2023** **University of Neuchâtel**

### **In-corpore: what the law does to our bodies**

#### **CALL FOR PARTICIPATION**

The Swiss institute for feminist research and gender studies (FRI) is welcoming proposals for the **Gender Law Conference** which will be held on **9-10 February 2023** at the University of Neuchâtel (Switzerland).

The conference aims to capture, develop, and disseminate feminist and queer perspectives on the law and its effect on one hand on human bodies and on the other hand on how it incorporates our beings into the society. The law's effect on bodies has to be approached from a holistic, multifaceted, and interdisciplinary perspective. We welcome contributions on identity, the conceptions of the self, created and influenced by the law, as well as the creation and negation of autonomy by the law. Considering the advances of reproductive technology, moral and other rights, we are also interested in how the law engages bodies from the conception of the embryo to the body after death. Besides, an emblematic dimension in which the law has been absent or misapplied to bodies relates to (sexual) crimes, some being disproportionately perpetrated on women's bodies. Finally, the conference will engage with the many ways in which violence marks the bodies, whether it be physical, psychological, or economic, as well as the decolonialization of bodies.

We welcome contributions from academics, practitioners and activists from around the world. In particular, we wish to encourage individuals at the start of their career to submit a contribution. While the conference's focus is on gender legal issues, we are happy to accept relevant submissions from all disciplines.

For your contribution you can choose between two presentation formats:

- Paper
- Panel input (15 minutes intervention & participation in public discussion)

You are welcome to combine these two different forms of contribution (i.e. panel input and paper).

Please send an **abstract of no more than 500 characters by 14 October 2022** together with the following information to [fri.conference@genderlaw.ch](mailto:fri.conference@genderlaw.ch)

- Presentation format (e.g. panel input and/or paper)
- Panel theme
- Title of your contribution
- Name(s) of contributor(s)
- Your institution or field of work

You can submit your abstract and present in **French, German or English**.

The FRI's board will make its selection and contact you by November 1st 2022.

We have organized the conference around four general themes and have invited a keynote speaker for each one. We are interested in panel inputs and contributions for publication in the following four areas (note that the questions for each section are merely examples designed to stimulate reflection):

- **INDIVIDUAL(ITY): HOW THE LAW CREATES US**

**Keynote:** Mishuana Goeman (Tonawanda Band of Seneca), Professor and Chair of Indigenous Studies, University at Buffalo

- How does the law affect a concept of the self in relation to law?
- To what extent does the law influence family identification, make race, or create space?
- How does law structure boundaries of belonging/unbelonging?
- How do affective regimes uphold law?

- **WHAT NEW TECHNOLOGIES DO TO OUR BODIES?**

**Keynote:** Stefano Osella, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Department “Law and Anthropology”, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology

- Are algorithms biased against certain bodies?
- How does the law discipline the body?
- What do advancements in reproductive technology do to bodies?
- How can transhumanism and law work together?

- **VIOLENCE AND THE MARKING OF BODIES**

**Keynote:** Olga Jurasz, Senior Lecturer in Law, Faculty of Business and Law, The Open University

- In what ways are bodies marked or appropriated by violence?
- How does the law respond to violence disproportionately affecting women's and queer bodies?
- What types of wars are waged on women's bodies?
- How do state institutions (e.g. prisons, medical institutions) treat women's and queer bodies?

- **DEATH EMBODIED, RIGHTS AND DUTIES AROUND BURIAL, GRIEF AND MOURNING**

**Keynote:** Stine Willum Adrian, Associate Professor in Techno-Anthropology, Department of Culture and Learning, Aalborg University

- What does the law impose on our bodies after death?
- How are we affected in our grief by social norms on dying and mourning?
- What place does international law give to mourning for migrants?
- What constraints do the non-living areas generated by human activity place on our lives?