OIGP Social Justice Seminar Series

State Violence in Black Communities: A Gender and Sexuality Studies Perspective

Bios: Marlo D. David received her PhD in English from the University of Florida in 2009. Her research specializes in contemporary African-American cultural studies as well as feminist gender and sexuality studies. Prof. David’s interdisciplinary research traces the ways black writers, artists, and performers respond to inter- and intra-racial representations of blackness and contemporary American politics in the post-Civil Rights era. Her work offers ways of interpreting African-American literature, performance, and popular culture that emphasize the multiplicities of black identities and challenge stereotypes that stigmatize black people, particularly black women. Prof. David spent 10 years as a newspaper journalist at newspapers across the country before entering academia. Her research and teaching specialties include black women novelists, motherhood studies, reproductive justice activism, black gender and sexuality studies, African-American satire, and black feminist thought. Her essays have been placed in *Tulsa Studies of Women’s Literature, Black Camera: An International Film Journal, The African American Review*, and *Home Girls Make Some Noise: A Hip Hop Feminist Anthology*. Her book *Mama’s Gun: Black Maternal Figures and the Politics of Transgression* (forthcoming Ohio State University Press) examines the ways African-American writers and performers use methods of vernacular signification to modify controlling images about black mothers in contemporary American culture.

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