

Presented by the Postcolonial Studies Research Network
and the Department of Media, Film and Communication, University of Otago

COLONIAL ATTRITIONS: STATE VIOLENCE AND SOCIAL FORGETTING

AUGUST 5TH
UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

Contemporary geopolitics and state sovereignty are founded on political and historical assumptions that Western liberal democracies represent progressive freedom and a benign and stabilising force in international affairs. This one-day symposium seeks presentations that call for an account of state violence and a remembrance of imperial and colonial histories and their embodied, everyday effects.

**FEATURING PROFESSOR SHERENE RAZACK
(UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO)**

Abstracts will be accepted on a rolling basis until July 17th
<http://www.otago.ac.nz/humanities/research/research-centres/otago062214.html>



UNIVERSITY
of
OTAGO
Te Whare Wānanga o Ōtago
NEW ZEALAND

DEPARTMENT OF
MEDIA, FILM AND COMMUNICATION

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In her landmark book, *Dark Threats and White Knights*, Sherene Razack writes poignantly: "Concealed in an apparently universal framework in which there is good and evil is a small piece of history—the history of imperialism, fascism, and racism" (2004, p. 157). Razack's evocation of the 'small piece of history' works to interrupt state narratives of goodness that obscure the violence of settler colonial and imperial histories. This one-day symposium likewise seeks presentations that call for an account of state violence and a remembrance of imperial and colonial histories and their embodied, everyday effects. Presentations and panels can address, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- epistemologies of forgetting in national and local narratives of place
- state violence and surveillance of Indigenous and minority communities
- racial and religious notions of belonging in the nation-state
- the moralisation of state and non-state violence
- citizenship, violence and the 'war on terror'
- social justice and activist challenges to state authority
- pedagogy and colonial narratives
- gender and sexuality in political and state discourses of equality
- tourism and the cultivation of nation-hood
- race, development and international aid work
- media economies, geopolitics and settler colonialism
- media bipower and necropower

Please send 200w abstracts with a 50w bio to: holly.randell-moon@otago.ac.nz. We will accept abstracts on a rolling basis until July 17.

Symposium organisers: Dr. Holly Randell-Moon & Mahdis Azarmandi
on behalf of the Postcolonial Studies Research Network.