
Symposium organizers:

Kamala Kempadoo

Elya M. Durisin

Megan Lowthers

Magdalena Sabat

Symposium participants:

Adriana Piscitelli (keynote)

Dan Allman

Cheryl Auger

Shannon Bell

Lindsay Blewett

Nathan Dawthorne

Ann de Shalit

Heather Evans

Jennifer Janke

Jassie Justice

Youn Joung Kim

Elene Lam

Allison Magpayo

Nicole Matte

Nicole D. McFadyen

Treena Orchard

Phillip Pilon

Arlene Jane Pitts

Menaka Raguparan

Emily van der Meulen

Sarah York-Bertram

Kate Zen

THANK YOU

We would like to thank all the
symposium participants as well as the
event sponsors that have made the
meeting possible.

Event Host:

Centre for Refugee Studies

Further co-sponsored by:

FLA&PS Research Unit

Centre for Feminist Research

Centre for Research on Latin America
and the Caribbean

Global Labour Centre

Department of Social Science

School of Gender, Sexuality and
Women's Studies

Graduate Program in Gender, Feminist
and Women's Studies

Cover Image:

Adriana Calvo

2016 YORK SEX WORK RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



**Sexual Economies,
Politics and Positionality
in Sex Work Research**

Friday, September 30th, 2016
626 Kaneff Tower
York University

EVENT DESCRIPTION:

The field of sex work studies has developed rapidly over the past number of years, and sex workers and academics are actively involved in empirical research and knowledge production. There has also been the mobilization of the global sex workers' movement, and many sex worker-led organizations direct and collaborate in research. To these ongoing dimensions of research production are added the ways in which knowledge is disseminated about sex work, in terms of both new methods of economic production in the sex industry itself, and media that shape public understanding of the research produced.

Within this context, critical reflection on our positionality, the normative positions we hold, and the perspectives that inform our research agendas are vital. What does this current context mean for those of us who wear multiple hats, those of us who find ourselves situated at different moments as researchers/researched, activists, and/or sex worker allies within academic institutions? How can we foster an awareness of our own investments in our research practice while ensuring that our work remains relevant to sex workers' struggles for social and economic justice?

The 2016 York Sex Work Symposium brings together sex work researchers, sex workers, sex working researchers and activists in and around Toronto, to explore the theme of positionality in sex work research.

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

WELCOME & KEYNOTE ADDRESS: 9:30-10:30AM

Introductory remarks by Kamala Kempadoo and keynote address by Adriana Piscitelli:
"Alliances and Tensions in the Production of Knowledge About Sex Work"

MORNING BREAK: 10:30-10:45AM

Refreshments will be served for symposium participants.

ROUNDTABLE 1: 10:45AM-12:15PM

"Subject Positions, Intersectionality and Shaping Research Agendas"
Introductory remarks by Elya M. Durisin followed by comments by Menaka Raguparan and open discussion.

LUNCH BREAK: 12:15-1:15PM

Lunch will be served for symposium participants.

ROUNDTABLE 2: 1:15-2:45PM

"Examining Sexual Economies, Research and Activism"
Introductory remarks by Magdalena Sabat followed by comments by Elene Lam and Treena Orchard and open discussion.

AFTERNOON BREAK: 2:45-3:00PM

Refreshments will be served for symposium participants.

ROUNDTABLE 3: 3:00-4:30PM

"Research, Knowledge Production and New Technologies"
Introductory remarks by Megan Lowthers followed by comments by Kate Zen and Dan Allman and open discussion.

POST-SYMPOSIUM SOCIAL HOUR: 4:30PM +

Symposium participants are invited to gather at the York University Underground campus pub (cash bar available).