



Rehearsal: Learning New Repertoires of Relating to Neighbors

Lee Ann Fujii

Monday, February 26, 2018

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Mackintosh-Corry Hall, Room B313



About the Speaker: Lee Ann Fujii is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Toronto. Her first book, [Killing Neighbors: Webs of Violence in Rwanda](#) (Cornell University Press, 2009), examines local involvement in the Rwandan genocide. Her second book, [Interviewing in Social Science Research: A Relational Approach](#), was recently published by in the Routledge Series on Interpretive Methods, edited by Dvora Yanow and Peregrine Schwartz-Shea. She is currently finishing a third book, entitled [Show Time: The Logic and Power of Violent Display](#) in which she examines the meaning-making power of “violent display” in three different sites: the Bosnian Krajina, Central Rwanda, and the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

About the Lecture: How do new political orders come into being? Scholars often assume that political change is a function of brute force from above which leads to compliance from below. This assumed convergence, however, overlooks important parts of the process that are not reducible to top-down capabilities or bottom-up acquiescence. Key to establishing a new political order, with its distinct rules, institutions, and personalities, is not just the capacity to enforce new precepts and structures or to install new individuals in positions of power, but rather, the co-optation of bodies that will enact the new order and bring it to life. Carrying out road blocks, night patrols, manhunts, and other collective activities give the new order visible, three-dimensional form. In some cases, enactment helps to insert the new order into the fabric of day-to-day life; in others, it leaves its mark through dramatic breaks from the ordinary. Whichever the pathway, the process of enactment transforms how people see and experience power, hierarchy, and belonging.