



UWI

IGDS

INSTITUTE FOR GENDER & DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

LUNCHTIME SEMINARS WEDNESDAYS – 12 NOON



Angelique V. Nixon is a writer, artist, teacher, scholar, activist, and poet -- born and raised in The Bahamas. Her research and teaching areas include Caribbean and postcolonial studies, feminist theories and praxis, African diaspora literatures, and gender and sexuality studies. She earned a Ph.D. in English from the University of Florida with a certificate in women's studies and gender research, and she completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Africana Studies at New York University. Her research, cultural criticism, and poetry have been published widely in academic and literary journals, namely *Anthurium*, *Black Renaissance Noire*, *Caribbean Review of Gender Studies*, *MaComere*, and *small axe salon*. She is co-editor of the online multi-media collection *Theorizing Homophobias in the Caribbean: Complexities of Place, Desire and Belonging*. Her first scholarly book titled *Resisting Paradise: Tourism, Diaspora, and Sexuality in Caribbean Culture*, is forthcoming with the University of Mississippi Press in October 2015. Dr. Nixon is a Fulbright Scholar at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, St. Augustine at The University of the West Indies.

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You are invited to the
IGDS, St. Augustine Unit
Lunchtime Seminar

The Problem of 'Rights' Movements for Gender and Sexual Justice in the Caribbean

with

Angelique V. Nixon

IGDS Fulbright Scholar

Wednesday, March 18th 2015 | 12 Noon

IGDS Seminar Room, The UWI, St. Augustine Campus

Public discourse around movements to reform and enact gender policies across the Caribbean has led to tenuous debates regarding issues of sexual and LGBT rights. These debates reveal anxieties about 'rights' and who should have access to protection. This presentation will offer a comparative analysis of these issues through an examination of public discourse, with a particular focus on The Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago. My project investigates the ways sexual minorities and migrant communities (in certain cases) have been scapegoated as "the problem" in public debates regarding the expansion of rights, especially for women, thereby pitting women's rights against sexual and LGBT rights. The larger contexts of gender-based violence and opposition to abortion and reproductive rights will be considered alongside fears regarding a so-called gay lobby and the use of religion and anti-imperial rhetoric. Overall, my research reveals how movements for gender and sexual justice in the region continue to be deeply affected by limited discourses on rights, equality, gender, sex, and sexuality; hence, I suggest new strategies for social change.

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