



**IGDS**

INSTITUTE FOR GENDER &  
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

## LUNCHTIME SEMINARS WEDNESDAYS – 12 NOON



**Sue Ann Barratt PhD**, is a graduate of The UWI, holding a BA in Media and Communication Studies with Political Science, MA Communication Studies, and PhD Interdisciplinary Gender Studies. Her current research areas are interpersonal interaction, social media use, gender and ethnic identities, beauty and body image, and carnival studies. She is an Assistant Lecturer at the IGDS, St. Augustine Unit, and is dedicated to gender awareness and sensitivity training through face-to-face sessions and mass media outreach.

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

### Exotic and Erotic: Mixing Stereotypes in the Douglia Woman's Body

with

**Sue Ann Barratt**

Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 2016

12 Noon

IGDS Seminar Room, The UWI, St. Augustine Campus

This presentation evaluates preliminary findings from a series of focus group discussions designed to explore the contemporary experiences of *douglia* individuals in Trinidad and Tobago. They emerge from a larger study of the politics of mixedness in the Caribbean with a focus on *douglaness*. Findings suggest that gender mediates experiences of *douglia* ethnicity, especially for women. According to these women, who identify as *douglia* based on their ethnic inheritance and their physical appearance, to be a *douglia* female is to negotiate persistent expectations of hypersexuality based on beliefs that they have inherited an 'idealised' combination of stereotypical sex characteristics from their African and Indian parents. They suggest that they are perceived as exotic, with body shape and hair texture often used to judge their beauty, desirability and authenticity as mixed females, and it is their exotic quality that marks them as erotic. The implication, according to focus group respondents, is an unwanted invasion of their sexuality and sexual harassment.

General Topic: Ethnicity and Gender: The Politics of Douglia Identities

Join and share event on facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1529658587328874/>

**For more information contact IGDS: Tel: 662 2002 Ext 83573/83577 | Email: [igds@sta.uwi.edu](mailto:igds@sta.uwi.edu)**  
[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Directions](#) to the venue | For media visit [Flickr](#) | [You Tube](#)