



# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: GENDER, VIOLENCE(S) AND SOCIAL CHANGE

## PROGRAMME

October 17th

### 10.00 OPENING SESSION

#### 11.00 SYLVIA WALBY

##### **Ending gender-based violence against women.**

Prevention of gender-based violence against women requires more than changes in attitudes and awareness; we need to address a wider range of causes. This includes gendered economic inequality, which reduces women's resources and resilience; gendered political inequality, which reduces women's ability to insist on anti-patriarchal practices in the legal and welfare systems; the overall level of violence; as well as civil societal practices. Violence is often higher in neoliberal than social democratic countries, so the depth of democracy and inequality are key. The paper applies this approach to feminist debates about priorities in policy development, drawing on the available evidence as to what works in reducing the violence. What are the circumstances when the level of violence has sometimes gone down? It discusses the framing of the project (equality, human rights, crime, health, cost) and its alliances with other projects in the context of the current neoliberal challenge.

#### 14.00 SANTIAGO BOIRA

##### **Hombres maltratadores: mitos, tópicos y realidades.**

Esta ponencia aborda el comportamiento violento dentro de la pareja desde la perspectiva del maltratador. A partir de un planteamiento metodológico cuantitativo y cualitativo se repasan algunas de las principales conclusiones de un proceso de investigación realizado con hombres que han participado en programas de reeducación. Las conclusiones muestran la imposibilidad de identificar un perfil inequívoco de agresor. La violencia dentro de la pareja queda definida como el conjunto de comportamientos dirigidos a mantener una estructura asimétrica en la relación. En este sentido, las estructuras disfuncionales de género representan el "mar de fondo" de las relaciones de violencia pero no logran explicarla en todos los casos. Asimismo, se analiza la caracterización que el hombre realiza de la relación de pareja y de la violencia. La percepción de la relación violenta se caracteriza por la ausencia de conciencia y responsabilidad sobre su comportamiento y un uso intencional y estratégico de la violencia. Por último, se proponen unas recomendaciones para la mejora de la investigación y el tratamiento de estos hombres.

#### JORGE TORGAL

**Violência - um real problema de saúde pública.**

## **Femicide as an analytic paradigm for gender violence.**

One of the major challenges of the twenty-first century is the eradication of violence against women on a global scale. Today, in Latin America, gender violence is the number one human rights issue affecting women. Not only has militarization of the so-called “war on drugs” exacerbated the problem, but government authorities, judicial institutions and law enforcement officials have often failed or refused to undertake investigations and prosecutions, creating a climate of impunity for perpetrators and denying victims/survivors of violence and their families access to truth and justice. In responding to the escalation of violence in Latin America during the past two decades, feminist researchers and human rights defenders have developed a new analytic paradigm for categorizing violence rooted in a gender power structure as a violation of women's human rights. In this presentation I will analyze the significance of femicide as a new analytic framework for reclassifying and representing gender violence in legal and academic and cultural discourses, as well as in movements for social justice. I will address the ongoing debates over the meanings, theoretical and political expediency, and application of the term “femicide” for reclassifying and reframing violence that has historically remained invisible and marginal.

**MARIA JOSÉ ARTHUR**

## **Cultural relativism and gender violence. The approval of law against domestic violence in Mozambique.**

This presentation intends to discuss the cultural arguments, which have been instrumental in supporting social inequities by claiming the precedence of cultural and religious rights over the rights of individuals. Among the most serious social inequalities, legitimized by recourse to custom and tradition, is gender-based violence, which structures a social organization that relies on it to reproduce itself. These aspects will be discussed based on the experiences of the process that led to the approval of the law of domestic violence against women in Mozambique. Throughout the debates leading up to approval, it became clear that many conflicts exist between a democratic system that formally expresses itself, through legislation and mechanisms and arrangements that ensure the functioning of its institutions, and human rights violations.

**October 18th**

**9.30 TERESA PIZARRO BELEZA**

## **Gender violence and legal regulation: can law change perceptions?**

A recent decision by the Oporto Court of Appeal in a case of rape stirred the discussion on violence, consent and social perceptions. A psychiatrist was charged with raping his pregnant patient. The local Criminal Court sentenced the defendant to 5 years imprisonment (suspended), but the Court of Appeal overturned the conviction. There had not been enough ‘violence’, the judges decided (by a majority vote). The fact that the reporting judge was a woman only made the decision the more debatable. I believe this case can be linked to a still prevailing difficulty in accepting the illegitimacy of gender violence and its major role in building social gender relations. The various changes in the Portuguese Penal Code since 1982 can be explained in terms of a continuous opposition between different perceptions.

**MIGUEL VALE DE ALMEIDA**

## **Domestic violence, gender violence. An overview of the emergence of a «social problem» in the Portuguese public space.**

Government agencies in Portugal have outlined “domestic violence” as a social problem in need of intervention. This has been picked up by the mainstream media and, of course, by everyday notions and discourses. A few social movements, as well as some academics have focused on “gender violence” as a concept rooted in feminist and gender studies. Furthermore, “domestic violence” has started to encompass violence between same-sex partners and husbands/wives, in a move that highlights inclusion while at the same time apparently diminishing structural gender power inequalities. These theoretical and strategic dilemmas will be addressed in a commentary, rather than empirical, mode.

## 11.15 CAROL HAGEMANN-WHITE

### **Protecting women and children: whose responsibility, whose rights, whose decisions? Some reflections from comparing policy trends and women's feminist advocacy in different EU countries.**

In the 1970's, a feminist grass-roots movement brought violence against women into public awareness. In the 1990's, women's organizing moved to place gender-based violence in an international human rights framework, making it the duty of the state to prevent, protect and punish acts of violence by individuals if these acts are based on unequal power. Now that this principle is accepted across Europe, there is a new need to negotiate who has a voice in what is to be done. The presentation will focus on three main themes: - How are the obligations of the state and the commitments of advocacy for women related? - How should the duty of the state to protect recognize the difference between women and children? - When and how are policy and advocacy accountable to those they claim to serve? Based on monitoring for the Council of Europe, surveying legislation for the European Commission, and many collaborative Daphne projects, some converging trends, but also tensions and dilemmas will be discussed.

## 14.30 MIGUEL LORENTE ACOSTA

### **Social changes and violence against women: the postmachism.**

Postmachism is a new strategy to criticize Equality and the policies and initiatives developed to eradicate inequality and Violence Against Women (VAW). Postmachism blocks the critiques of patriarchal positions, trying to maintain traditional frames of reference, without presenting any alternative form of change. Some of the most important elements of the postmachist strategy are: 1. Neutrality; 2. Common interest; 3. 'Scientific arguments'. Around these three main elements postmachists develop a strategy based on postmodernist elements: isolated messages, to generate doubts and create disorientation and to create conflicts using frequently mass media. The danger postmachism pose is real. Under the guise of 'rational' arguments, they can lean on the fact that inequalities are still very present and societies are resistant to change, and this kind of messages has influence on violent behaviour and contribute to increase VAW.

## ELZA PAIS

### **Evolução das políticas públicas no combate à violência de género em Portugal.**

A autora fará uma abordagem das principais políticas públicas de prevenção e combate à violência de género em Portugal que têm vindo a ser implementadas no quadro dos diversos Planos Nacionais Contra a Violência Doméstica. Dará igualmente conta dos avanços legislativos desde a definição da violência doméstica como crime público até à criação de um novo tipo legal de crime. Fará ainda uma breve abordagem da importância das redes e da intervenção das organizações não-governamentais no combate à violência doméstica.

## PEDRO PITA BARROS

### **Gender and violence: an economic approach.**

We have collected the information from a survey addressed to health care center's female users, and estimated immediate costs separated into five different groups – consultation costs, health care treatment and therapeutic costs, costs of complementary and diagnostic exams, drugs costs and transport costs. The estimations have been split into two perspectives – the NHS perspective (public perspective) and private perspective of inquired women. The timeframe of our calculations is one year, respecting to all costs generated by domestic violence situations in the last twelve months. Essentially costs were estimated through the product of total number of episodes by the average estimated price per episode. Additionally, for the private costs, we also considered the costs originated by income losses, the opportunity cost of time spent on health care treatments and the work inability caused by sickness. The results suggest that the victims of domestic violence's additional demand for health care is €140, that is about 22% higher than non-victims. These results match those of similar studies in the United States. A great proportion (90%) of additional costs associated with domestic violence is supported by the NHS, where consultations and drugs are the most important contributors of such costs. Accordingly to international literature, consequences of domestic violence result from losses in quality of life and worst health status of victims and correspond to additional permanent economic costs.

## 16.30 MANUEL LISBOA

### **Presentation of the Observatório Nacional de Violência e Género**



## Sylvia Walby

Sylvia Walby is UNESCO's Chair of Gender Research and Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Lancaster University, UK; she was awarded an OBE for services to equal opportunities and diversity in 2008 and is an Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences. She has conducted research on gender-based violence against women for many years. This includes measuring domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in the British Crime Survey (*Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking: Findings from the British Crime Survey*, with J. Allen, Home Office Research Study, 2004), measuring the cost of domestic violence for the Women and Equality Unit (*The Cost of Domestic Violence*, DTI, 2004), and helping to develop indicators of violence against women for the UN (Rapporteur of UNICE Expert Group 2007). Recent books include: *The Future of Feminism* (Polity 2011) and *Globalization and Inequalities: Complexity and Contested Modernities* (Sage 2009).

Soy Psicólogo Especialista en Psicología Clínica y Doctor por la Universidad de Zaragoza. En el año 1999 participé en la puesta en marcha el Servicio Espacio, orientado al tratamiento de hombres con problemas de control y violencia en el hogar, coordinando el Programa hasta el año 2007. A partir de este momento, he compaginado la docencia en la Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y del Trabajo de la Universidad de Zaragoza con la atención a hombres condenados por un delito de violencia de género en el Servicio de Gestión de Penas y Medidas Alternativas del Centro Penitenciario de Zaragoza. Durante estos años las líneas de trabajo que han centrado mi actividad han sido el estudio de la violencia dentro de la pareja y el análisis de la pobreza extrema y la exclusión social. En el año 2009, defendí la tesis doctoral *Más allá de las víctimas. Un acercamiento psicosocial a la Violencia de Género desde la perspectiva del hombre agresor*.

## Santiago Boira

## Jorge Torgal

Presidente do Conselho Directivo do INFARMED — Autoridade Nacional do Medicamento e Produtos de Saúde, I. P., desde Junho de 2010. Médico, especialista em Dermatologia e em Saúde Pública, é Professor Catedrático da Faculdade de Ciências Médicas da Universidade Nova de Lisboa. Vice-Presidente Nacional da Cruz Vermelha Portuguesa, desde 2005. Membro do Conselho Directivo da Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento, desde 2006. De Dezembro de 2000 a Janeiro de 2010 foi Director do Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical, Universidade Nova de Lisboa.

Dr. Rosa-Linda Fregoso is Professor and former Chair of Latin American & Latino Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She has published numerous articles and books dealing with human rights, transnational feminism, film and media studies. Her major publications include: *Terrorizing Women: Feminicide in the Americas* (co-edited with Dr. Cynthia Bejarano, Duke University Press, 2010); the award winning book, *meXicana Encounters: The Making of Social Identities on the Borderlands* (Berkeley: The University of California Press, 2003). The book was awarded the Modern Language Association Prize, U.S./Latino/a, Chicano/a Literary and Cultural Studies. Her first book was *The Bronze Screen: Chicana and Chicano Film Culture* (Minneapolis: The University of Minnesota Press, 1993), the first single-authored book on Chicana/o film and culture. *She also edited The Devil Never Sleeps and Other Films by Lourdes Portillo* (Austin: The University of Texas Press, 2001); *Miradas de Mujer*, (co-edited with Norma Iglesias, CLRC & COLEF, 1998); Fregoso teaches courses on human rights, Latino and Latin American media and culture.

## Rosa-Linda Fregoso

## Maria José Arthur

Maria José Arthur graduated in Social Anthropology from the University of Paris VII in 1988 and in 1998 completed a master's degree in Sociology - Anthropology Mention from the same university. Worked as lecturer at the Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo, and since 2002 has held a research position at NGO WLSA Mozambique (Women and Law in Southern Africa), where she is also an activist. Research areas: gender-based violence, family.

Miguel Vale de Almeida (Lisbon, 1960) is Professor of Anthropology at ISCTE-Lisbon University Institute. He has conducted research in Portugal, Brazil, and Spain on gender and sexuality, and on 'race' and postcolonialism. He has published several books (two of which in the UK and the US). His latest book is *"A Chave do Armário. Homossexualidade, casamento, família"* (Imprensa de Ciências Sociais, 2009). He was an opinion writer in newspapers, as well as a blogger and an LGBT activist. He was a Member of Parliament where he was instrumental in passing the same-sex marriage and gender identity laws.

## Miguel Vale de Almeida

Carol Hagemann-White (B.A. Harvard 1964, Dr. phil. Free University of Berlin 1970) is a full professor of gender studies and educational theory (retired) at the University of Osnabrück, Germany. Her work has covered a broad range of topics including gender socialization over the life course, gender and organization in work and politics, and women's health. Beginning in 1977 in the first German refuge for battered women in Berlin, she has directed policy-related empirical studies linked to developing strategies to overcome gender-based violence, and led a 6-year evaluation of multi-agency work in Germany. In 1998 she was awarded the German-Swedish prize for outstanding research by the Swedish Riksbankens Jubileumsfond. She works as an expert for European institutions on combating violence against women, and has completed four analytical studies on *"Protecting Women Against Violence"* monitoring the implementation of Recommendation Rec(2002)15 in Council of Europe member states. She coordinated the European research network *"Coordination Action on Human Rights Violations (CAHRV)"*, funded in the 6th research framework program of the EU from 2004 to 2007. She was a partner in the 2010 feasibility study for the European Commission on the possibilities of harmonizing legislation on violence against women, violence against children, and sexual orientation violence and with a team of four partners is currently carrying out multi-country case studies in the Daphne project *"Realizing Rights?"*, on diversity and implementation of legal frameworks addressing violence.

## Carol Hagemann-White

Miguel Lorente Acosta is currently the government representative for Gender Violence in Spain. He has been the Director General for Legal Assistance to Victims of Violence in the Spanish Ministry of Justice - Junta de Andalucía and General Coordinator of the Institute of Legal Medicine of Andalucía. He has around 60 national and international publications mainly concerning the analysis of the DNA in the human identification in the field of criminal investigation and the biological research of fatherhood and motherhood; occupational medicine; bioethics, especially in relation to scientific research and genetic studies; violence and violence against women.

## Miguel Lorente Acosta

## Elza Pais

Elza Pais was the Minister of Equality in the 11th Legislature (2009-2011) and the President of the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality and is currently a Member of the Assembly of the Portuguese Republic (Socialist Party). Elza holds a Master in Sociology by the FCSH-UNL and is currently a PhD candidate at the same institution under the theme of domestic violence. Elza Pais has participated in several national and international conferences and training courses on Domestic Violence and is the author of several books and papers published in national and international journals including *"Violent Rupture in Matrimony. The Contexts of Matrimonial Murder in Portugal"* (2005) and *"Violence Against Women"* (1997).

Pedro Pita Barros is the dean of the Faculdade de Economia - Universidade Nova de Lisboa (FE-UNL) and a full professor of Economics at the same institution. And also a research fellow at the Centre for Economic Policy Research (London) and the president of the Scientific Council of the FE-UNL. He has been the president of the Portuguese Health Economics Association. His academic activities include the publication of papers in scientific journals like European Economic Review, Economic Journal, Journal of Economics and Management Strategy, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Industrial Economics, Health Economics, International Journal of Health Care Finance and Economics, International Journal of Industrial Organization, Public Choice among others; the participations in numerous conferences and seminars; and being a member of the editorial board of many scientific journals such as the Journal of Health Economics, Health Economics, Health Care Management Science, Portuguese Economic Journal and editor-in-chief of the International Journal of Health Care Finance and Economics. His research interests focus on the areas of economic regulation, competition policy and health economics.

## Pedro Pita Barros