



**ESRC Research ‘Seminar series on genetics, technology, security and justice. Crossing, contesting and comparing boundaries’**

*Thu, 20 July 2017, 12:00-17:15, & Fri, 21 July 2017, 10:00-15:30, Pemberton Building, Palace Green, Durham DH1 3EH, United Kingdom*

ERSC seminar 6: Genetics, Conflict, Race and Nation Building

The final seminar in our series will explore ways in which nation-building projects intersect with forensic technologies and security scenarios across boundaries. Using case studies, the seminar will explore how notions of nation are enacted or obscured by different social actors and their engagement with DNA technologies while constituting forensic databases, policing borders or fighting terrorism.

This seminar is part of a series of six interdisciplinary seminars (2015-2017), which critically examine contributions of forensic genetics to the production of security and justice in the UK and other contemporary societies. The series is influenced by the commitment of the ‘Europe 2020 Strategy’ to protect the security of social infrastructures and the safety and freedom of its citizens.

The series of meetings engages with the relevant biosocial research at the intersections of genetics, technology, security and justice. It brings together academic researchers, policy makers and practitioners from policing organisations, commercial forensic service providers, public sector organisations and civil society groups, in the UK and abroad. We discuss new research avenues towards informing UK policy and practice on the uses of genetic information to address the societal challenges of justice and security.

***For presentations and discussion outcomes from previous seminars please see the webpages for each seminar at: [www.ncl.ac.uk/peals/research/forensicgenetics](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/peals/research/forensicgenetics)***

**Bursaries for Early Career Researchers** are available and will be granted on a first-come, first-serve basis. The bursary can cover reasonable travel costs and accommodation for up to £250. Bursary holders will be asked to write a brief thematic summary of the seminar discussions for the seminar series website. Please contact [matthias.wienroth@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:matthias.wienroth@newcastle.ac.uk) for further information.

## Programme

### **Day 1 - Nation Building, DNA, Conflict and Disappearances**

- 12:00-13:00 *Arrival & lunch buffet*
- 13:00-13:15 Welcome (Matthias Wienroth, Newcastle University)
- 13:15-13:30 Introduction to the topic of the day (Ernesto Schwartz-Marin, Durham University)
- 13:30-15:00 Session 1  
Chair: Robin Williams (Northumbria University)
1. Noa Vaisman (Aarhus University): *Kinship knowledge and the state: The case of Argentina's adult 'living disappeared'*
  2. Nayanika Mookherjee (Durham University): *'Boundaries of blood' and genealogies of 'war-babies' of the Bangladesh war of 1971*
- 15:00-15:30 *Refreshments*
- 15:30-17:00 Session 2  
Chair: Erica Haimes (Newcastle University)
1. Elisabeth Anstett (CNRS): *Necromarket: exhumations and genetics in post-genocide context*
  2. Alan Robinson: *The disappeared. Developing Mexico's forensic capacity: Challenges and opportunities*
- 17:00-17:15 Summary & close (Arely Cruz Santiago, Durham University)

### **Day 2 - Genetics, Race and Nation Building**

- 09:30-10:00 *Arrival*
- 10:00-10:15 Introduction to the topic of the day (Ernesto Schwartz-Marin)
- 10:15-11:45 Session 1  
Chair: Chris Lawless (Durham University)
1. Sarah Abel (University of Iceland): *'Reversing the Middle Passage'? DNA ancestry testing and the pursuit of African ethnicities in two post-slavery societies*
  2. Yulia Egorova (Durham University): *GM food and Genomic Sovereignty*
- 11:45-12:15 *Refreshments*
- 12:15-12:45 Summary (Ernesto Schwartz-Marin)
- 12:45-13:00 Close of seminar (Matthias Wienroth)
- 13:00-14:00 *Lunch buffet*