

UNEQUAL BEFORE DEATH

A Conference Organized by the
Columbia University Seminar on Death

Saturday, March 20th, 2010, 8 AM-4 PM

Columbia University Faculty House, 3rd floor

Directions: http://facultyhouse.columbia.edu/files/facultyhouse/web/Faculty_House_Directions.pdf

PROGRAM

8:00-9:00 AM Registration and continental breakfast

INTRODUCTORY SESSION

9:00-9:10 Welcome and logistics - Christina Staudt

9:10- 10:30 AM PLENARY PANEL

I. *Fundamentals of Death and Inequality*

Siamak Movahedi/Glenn Jacobs -*Death as a Metaphor in the Cultural Unconscious*

Michael Bartalos – *Inequality, Exploitation and Entitlement*

Margaret Yard – *Grievability: The Social Marker for a Life that Counts.*

Betty Levin – *From Local to Global: Social Origins of Disparities in Mortality*

10:30-10:40 AM BREAK

10:40-12:20 AM PANELS - Choice of two

II. *Socio-Culturally Constructed Inequities*

Marcelline Block – *Poor Little Rich Dead: Michael Jackson's Moonwalk through the Pharmaco-Narco Netherworld and Other Tales of Celebrity Death and Inequality: Anna Nicole Smith, Brittany Murphy, and Casey Johnson*

David Balk - *Adolescents: The Ignored Bereaved*

Sarah Kaufman - *Performing Inequality: Findings from Inside American Death Penalty Trials*

Jerry Nessel – *Some False Beliefs Or Unhealthy Thinking, Concerning Old Age that May Result In An Early Death*

Facilitator: Tom Caffrey

III. *Inequality and Death in a Global Perspective*

Ida Susser – *The Politics of Inequality: AIDS, Culture and Power in Southern Africa*

Christina Staudt – *Unequal and Invisible: Maternal Death in the Developing World*

Rudy von Bernuth – TBA –[Natural catastrophes and unequal consequences]

Lloyd Steffen – *Stop the Killing: The Protections of “Just War” on Non-Combatants*

Facilitator: Lesley Sharp

12:20-1:15 LUNCH BREAK

1:15 – 2:55 PANELS - Choice of two

IV. *Inequities in End-of-Life Care Settings*

Margaret Souza – *When Those Who Have Less Receive More*

James Maurino - *Addressing the Current and Future Needs of Racial, Ethnic, and Sexual Minorities and Care In Hospice Settings*

Rhonda Sternberg – *Alone & Dying...Coming of Old Age in America*

Julie Buyon/Marsha Hurst – *The Patient Advocate in Palliative Care: Bridging the structural divide at the end of life*

Facilitator: Sherry Schachter

V. *War and Terrorism: Justifications for Inequalities in Death*

J. Harold Ellens – *The Inequality or Singularity of Institutionalized Death: Soldiers' Deaths*

William Hon/Michael Kim – *A Disparity of Casualties'': An investigation of the US Military's culture towards its sacrifices in the Global War on Terror*

Talat Halman – *Death Is Its Own Conquest: The Prestige of Martyrdom in Palestine*

Jerry Piven – *Ontological Dread and the Envy of Life: Why Ideologies Justify Who Deserves to Live and Who is Worthy of Death*

Facilitator: Kevin Keith

2:55-4:00 CONCLUDING RECEPTION