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

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