

The Liu Institute for Global Issues & RAGA

Invite you to join us for a talk

Killed in Canada and Remembered in Israel: Mapping the Geopolitics of the “Aqsa Parvez Memorial Grove”

Tuesday, November 1, 2011, 4 – 6 pm

Liu Institute for Global Studies
6476 NW Marine Drive, Vancouver BC



On August 24, 2011, readers from the American-based blog AtlasShrugs.com traveled to Israel to commemorate the 2007 murder of the Canadian teenager Aqsa Parvez. They dedicated the “Aqsa Parvez Memorial Grove” in Jerusalem’s American Independence Park to victims of honor killing across the world. According to its organizers, this event sent a message to the “Islamic world” that acts of violence leading to the murder of women – also known as honour crimes – will not be tolerated in Western nation-states. How does the narrative of a murder of a Muslim female teenager travel from Canada to Israel? What are the discourses that sanction its transfer, narration, and scripting? And how do they compromise the subjects they purportedly seek to rescue, save, or rebury? This paper explores how the body of a murdered Muslim female teenager has been used to bolster neoconservative agendas in Canada and the United States, while simultaneously rejuvenating the settler colonial project of Zionism in Israel.

Dr Dana Olwan is the Ruth Wynn Woodward Junior Chair and Assistant Professor in the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies at Simon Fraser University. Dr. Olwan’s research focuses on gendered and colonial violence against women and transnational feminist solidarity. She is currently working on a book project tentatively entitled, *Bodies that Matter in Death: Honour Killings in Canadian Racial Logics*. She is also editor of *Muslim Mothering: Local and Global Histories, Theories and Practices* (Demeter Press 2012).

The Centre for Race, Autobiography, Gender, and Age (RAGA) fosters interdisciplinary critical race and feminist scholarship with a focus on auto/bio/graphy in its broadest interpretation. RAGA also works collaboratively with community organizations to promote social change based on principles of equity and social justice. Visit our website to join our listserve: www.raga.ubc.ca.