The Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures and The Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies present:

Dr. Dana Mohammed Olwan

“They Just Wanted to be Normal”: Locating the Strange and the Familiar in the Shafia Honor Killing Trial.

Colloquium with Dr. Dana Mohammed Olwan
Thursday, March 8th, 2012, 11:30 a.m.
Location: AQ 6229
To RSVP, please email ccsmsc@sfu.ca

The Shafia family murder trial opened on October 20, 2011. Three members of the four victims’ own family stand accused for the quadruple murders discovered on June 30, 2009 in Kingston, Ontario. Claimed as honour killings, the trial has generated heated debates about the cultural and religious motivations for such acts of gendered violence. In Canada, Media responses to these murders have focused on the familiar stories of Muslim violence, multicultural breaches, and failed integration. This talk examines some of the familiar and strange narratives used to script the Shafia murders and catapult their national and international notoriety.

Dana Mohammed Olwan is currently the Ruth Wynn Woodard Junior Chair in Women's Studies for the year 2011-2012. In the Summer 2011, she was the Future Minority Studies Postdoctoral Fellow at the Women’s and Gender Studies Department of Syracuse University (Syracuse, New York) where she began her book-length project on honour killings in Canada.

Further information: http://www.ccsmsc.sfu.ca/ or http://www.sfu.ca/gsws/