

Gender & Women's Studies Colloquium Series 2017-18

Thursday, November 30, 3:45 pm

Roudabeh Kishi

Center for Research on Gender & Women
Visiting Scholar



**“Gender-Based Violence and Women’s
Political Participation: Questions of
Measurement”**

Widespread and persistent rates of political violence that do not necessarily escalate into large crisis or civil war situations are common across developing and low-income states, and the use of violence to thwart the political participation of women in particular is not unusual. Political violence against women is a denial of specific forms of security for women within unstable settings, and it remains poorly documented. A new quantitative dataset—the Gendered Repression Dataset—explores the impact of political violence on women and the gendered responses to political activism women face at the local to national scales, while not limited solely to wartime. Preliminary findings from the dataset explore trends in Africa and suggest that this tactic has been increasing at a rapid rate in recent years, and that political militias—or ‘armed gangs’ operating on behalf of political elites—are the primary instigators of this type of violence. Additionally, this type of violence is especially prevalent during contentious contexts, such as election periods. Identifying when and where women may be most at risk of this type of violence is a crucial step toward fostering environments in which women can be active contributors to political processes.

Najia Hichmine

Center for Research on Gender & Women
Visiting Scholar



**“Women in Security Forces: The Case
of Morocco”**

Organizations like the military are male-dominated organizations and women still constitute a minority in these institutions. The study investigates gendered practices and women’s experiences in the Moroccan security forces, particularly the armed forces and the police. I argue that on the surface, it appears that the Moroccan security structure replicates traditional gender roles, but a careful examination of the performance of gender reveals a more complex reality. Women tend to be relegated to female stereotypical roles, serving as secretaries, health workers, cooks, and cleaners. In those roles, they take on a male posture, particularly with regard to civilians. However, in dealing with fellow male soldiers or police they find it advantageous to perform in a stereotypically feminine fashion. Men, on the other hand, assert only male stereotypical behavior in all types of roles, combat and other roles. The study is based on semi-structured interviews with 43 men and 36 women in cities throughout Morocco in 2017.

CENTER FOR RESEARCH
ON GENDER & WOMEN



All lectures take place in Sterling Hall, Room 3401,
except where noted, are wheelchair accessible, free, and open to the public.

For ASL interpretation or other accommodations, please
contact Dace Zeps at dazeps@wisc.edu.

Sponsored by the
Center for Research on Gender and Women
For more information call 263-2053, or email dazeps@wisc.edu
crgw.gws.wisc.edu