

RACIAL JUSTICE RESEARCH AND PRACTICE DIALOGUES

EVENT 4: RACISM IN THE CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM

Event Description:

This event will cover the ongoing and historical harms caused by the US criminal legal system to communities and individuals of color, along with racist policies and practices within the system. As the systemic expression of the state monopoly on violence, the US criminal legal system has long been a key means of enforcing the nation's established racial hierarchy and maintaining white supremacy. It has further served as a model for other structures of government power, including the US immigration control system in a set of practices now understood as *crimmigration*. Our esteemed panelists Dr. Jasmine Syedullah (Vassar) and Professor César Cuauhtémoc García Hernández (University of Denver, Sturm College of Law), will join John Jay's Professor José Luis Morín for a discussion of the harms caused by the criminal legal and crimmigration systems, ongoing efforts to rectify those harms, and alternative approaches to fulfilling the basic social functions these systems ostensibly serve.

Readings

Hernández, C.C.G. (2021). Criminalizing Migration. *Daedalus*, 150(2): 106-119. DOI: [10.1162/daed_a_01849](https://doi.org/10.1162/daed_a_01849)

Hernández, C.C.G. (2021). It's Still Time to Abolish ICE. *The Nation*, Feb. 26. <https://www.thenation.com/article/society/immigration-deportation-abolish-ice/>

Morín, J.L. (2020). Latinx Communities, the Criminal Justice System, and Literature. *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Literature*, May 29. DOI: [10.1093/acrefore/9780190201098.013.332](https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190201098.013.332)

Pérez, L., Morín, J.L. and Martínez, I. (2017). John Jay as a Hispanic-Serving Institution: Meeting the Challenges and Opportunities. *CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice*: https://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj_arch_pubs/28/

Syedullah, J. and Leiner, R. (2021). "Take a Moment to Ask Yourself, If This Is How We Fall Apart?" Practices for Mutually Reinforced Resilience in the Time of Reckoning: More Lessons from The Manual for Liberating Survival. *Journal of Women, Politics & Policy*, 42(1): 23-37. DOI: [10.1080/1554477X.2021.1872985](https://doi.org/10.1080/1554477X.2021.1872985)

Syedullah, J. (2021). Surviving White Supremacy: Towards a Radical Dharma of Staying Fugitive. *Naropa University*, Feb 4. <https://youtu.be/P4lL5heis7s>