



"Violence and Society"

International Conference

16-17 May 2026
Birkbeck, University of London / Online

organised by
London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research

Programme

Saturday, 16 May
(In-person Sessions, Birkbeck)

9:00-9:50 Session 1:

Chair: Elena Nistor

Melouki Slimane, University of M'sila (Algeria)

Is Religion Really Responsible for Violence?

N Rama Devi Murru, English and Foreign Languages University (India)

The Ramayana and Many Forms of Violence: A Study of the Ethics Behind Dharmic Violence

9:50-10:00 Tea/Coffee

10:00-10:50 Session 2:

Chair: Peeyush

Stephen Ansah Addo, University of Greenwich (UK)

Responding to Domestic Abuse: Legal Developments in the UK and Implications for Social Work Practice

Nikhila Tejaswi Murru (USA)

Reading between Bruises: Lessons from Literary Fiction for Effective Domestic Violence Adjudication

10:50-11:00 Tea/Coffee

11:00-11:50 Session 3:

Chair: TBC

Emily Alice Farmer, Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong)

Silence as Non-Physical Violence in Stieg Larsson's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* (2008)

Elena Nistor, London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research (UK)

Intersecting Forms of Violence in Onjali Q. Raúf's *The Boy at the Back of the Class* (2018)

11:50-12:20 Lunch

12:20-13:10 Session 4:

Chair: Stephen Ansah Addo

Peeyush, University of Lucerne (Switzerland)

"Manhood Enhancement": Understanding the Institutionalisation of Masculinity and Violence in Military Schools

Sara Kusz, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań (Poland)

The Woman Warrior Between Patriotism and Fear. The Interpretation of the Selected Works about the Polish Hero Chrzanowska

Sunday, 17 May
(Online Sessions, Zoom)

10:00-10:50 Session 5:

Chair: Gianluca Sardi

Weronika Felicja Bandarzewska, University of Silesia in Katowice (Poland)

When Harm Feels Justified: Everyday Sadism and Utilitarian Moral Beliefs

Visakesa Chandrasekaram, University of New South Wales, Sydney (Australia)

Hell in the Police Interrogation Chambers: Tracing Modern and Ancient Torture Methods through the Visual Narratives of the Essay Film "32"

11:00-12:15 Session 6:

Chair: Visakesa Chandrasekaram

Barbra Wallace, Independent Scholar (UK)

A Non-Gendered Portrayal of Women's Roles During the War in Ukraine

Giuseppina Scotto di Carlo, University of Naples 'L'Orientale' (Italy)

Unsolved, Unacknowledged: Media Discourse and the Normalisation of Violence Against Transgender Women

Amber Moon, St Mary's University (UK)

'He Went in After Her, Swiftly, Silently': Domestic Violence and Femicide in Daphne du Maurier's *Julius*

13:00-14:15 Session 7:

Chair: Anna Hamling

Merve Arslan, Şırnak University (Türkiye)

Connecting Violence with Existence and the Self: Nietzsche and His Contributions to Psychology

Gianluca Sardi, University of Teramo (Italy) / London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research (UK)

The Right of Resistance: Violence and Political Legitimacy in John Locke's Thought

Natalia Wilk-Sobczak, University of Warsaw (Poland)

Violence against More-than-human Worlds: Fernand Deligny's Eco-philosophical Pedagogy for a Threatened Planet

14:30-15:45 Session 8:

Chair: Dana LaCourse Munteanu

Anna Hamling, University of New Brunswick (Canada)

Nonviolence/Violence. Religious Aspects of L Tolstoy, M Gandhi and Abdul Ghaffar Khan' Thinking

M. Emanuel Cenicerros, Bethel Theological Seminary (Mexico)

Non-Violence as a New Evangelism of Religion in Latin American Cultural Communities. *A Symbolic Translation Adaptable to Society*

Abdelaaziz El Bakkali, Radouane El Bakkali, EL Hassane El Hilali, ASU (USA) / Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University (Morocco)

Rewriting the Rhetoric Narratives of the Moroccan Female Cultural Identity within Modern Religiosity

16:00-16:50 Session 9:

Chair: M. Emanuel Cenicerros

Dana LaCourse Munteanu, Ohio State University (USA)

Fictional Violence: Ancient Texts and Modern Crises

Lile Kobaliani, Raquel Souza, Center for Translation and Anglo-Portuguese Studies (Portugal)

Digesting Violence: Food, Consumption and Power in Cinema