NEWS # 04



KENDALL THOMAS & SUSANNE BAER

/ THE STATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

29. AUG / 11h - 13h

HAU 1 > in englischer Sprache

Karten > 5 Euro

Introduction & Moderation: Carolin Emcke

In their lectures, the law professors Kendall Thomas and Susanne Baer introduce current debates on the reach and implementation of human rights. The relationship between rights and culture as well as the neglect of aspects such as gender or religion will be at the center of their focus.

KENDALL THOMAS

"MERELY CULTURAL? THOUGHTS ON ARTICLE 27 OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS"

Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that "Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community...[and] to enjoy the rights." In his talk, Professor Kendall Thomas will examine the ways in which the rights recognized in Article 27 of the UNDH are not merely cultural or aesthetic, but are instead a material condition of possibility for the emergence and defense of the culture of human rights as such.

SUSANNE BAER

"HUMAN RIGHTS - INCLUDED EXCLUSIONS"

Today, we are told to believe that every individual on the globe enjoy fundamental human rights, guaranteed in law. But this is a powerful myth in need of reconstruction. Human rights are hierarchical, and leave several socio-cultural hierarchies largely untouched. Most prominently, sexuality and race are fixed rather than undone, and currently, religion and culture are homogenized rather than taken as constantly changing ingredients of pluralism. The lecture suggests ways to include these exclusions into the promise of human rights.











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PROF. KENDALL THOMAS

Kendall Thomas is Nash Professor of Law and Director of the Center for the Study of Law and Culture at Columbia University, New York City. His academic focuses include human rights, constitutional law, law and sexuality, critical race theory and feminist legal theory.

PROF, DR. SUSANNE BAER

Susanne Baer is Professor of Public Law and Gender Studies at the Law Faculty at Humboldt University Berlin. Her research areas are gender studies, socio-cultural legal studies, comparative constitutional law and constitutionalism and governance.

DR. CAROLIN EMCKE

is a journalist, political theorist and writer. She writes about war crimes and human rights violations in Lebanon, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Israel, Colombia, a. o. Since 2007, she works as an international reporter for »Die Zeit«.

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