

Call for Abstracts

CLS Interdisciplinary Workshop

Rethinking Gender, Sexuality, and the Law: A Conversation between Feminist Scholars in Postcolonial South Asia and the UK

16th - 17th June 2025

Deadline for abstracts: 28th March 2025

This two-day workshop, generously funded by the Centre of Law and Society (CLS) and Journal of Law and Society (JLS), both based at Cardiff University, seeks to facilitate a conversation on the approaches, theories, and experiences of researching gender, sexuality and the law, between scholars in postcolonial South Asia and the UK. The workshop also promises a riveting masterclass in feminist research ethics, and we have confirmed participation from Prof Rosemary Hunter and Prof Ratna Kapur.

This call for papers is open to PGRs, ECRs, and senior academics, whose research area overlaps with this theme. We sincerely believe that now more than ever, there is a necessity to learn from each other as feminists, as we are confronted with the rise of populism and authoritarianism and the crackdown of violence against all minorities across the world.

We welcome abstract submissions within, but not limited to, the following list of broad research areas:

- a) the tribulations of gender justice—from the law to the claims of restorative justice
- b) intersectional feminist research methodologies in law
- c) the postcolonial state and the governance of gender and sexuality
- d) beyond violence: finding feminist solidarities and resistances in unlikely places
- e) studies focusing on voices of women, gender and sexual minorities in prison/the process of criminalisation
- f) legal ethnographies and legal-historical research analysing any aspect of gender and sexuality in South Asia or the UK

Please submit your abstract to both Atreyee Sengupta (as206@soas.ac.uk) and Mini Saxena (ms194@soas.ac.uk). The deadline for submission of abstracts is **11.59pm (UK time) on Friday, 28th March 2025**.

The abstract should be limited to 250 words; please mention your name and affiliation, unless you are an independent researcher. If your abstract is selected, you will be asked to submit a full paper of up to 3,000 words by the first week of May. Papers presented at the workshop will have the opportunity to be included in a Special Research Issue of the Journal of Law and Society.

We will be able to contribute to part or all of the travel expenses of speakers from within the UK. Travel claims for those traveling from outside the UK will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

For any related enquiries, please contact us at the above email addresses. We look forward to your submissions.