



Global echoes of rape and resistance

Tuesday 1 September 6.30pm – 7.30pm

Speakers

Visiting Professor Linda Martin
Alcoff

Location

Law Link Theatre
Building #5, ANU

RSVP for refreshments

W bit.ly/1Hpu1Pe

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Jose Medina develops a concept of echoing, and echoability, as an important way to understand social change. He writes that “the transformative impact of performance that we consider heroic is crucially dependent on social networks and daily practices that echo that performance.”(The Epistemology of Resistance 187) Without an understanding of the social conditions that turn an individual act into one with socially understood meanings and effects, Medina says we can fall into a “dangerous trap that the dominant individualism in Western cultures sets up for social movements of resistance.” Clearly, however, echoing can happen in a variety of ways that are both productive and unproductive for transforming the social relations of power. In this presentation I want to explore the conditions of echoing and echoability in the context of the epidemic of global sexual violence. Sexual violence requires its own specific analysis because it is silenced, and victims are discredited, in very particular ways. Thus we need to develop a very particular form of what Medina calls “meta-lucidity,” or an understanding about how power may be distorting communication and knowledge. I will develop eight points that are critical for creating a meta-lucidity around the topic of sexual violence, and I will draw my arguments from some specific cases in the news.

Presented by

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Cultural Studies, ANU College of
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Supported by

Gender Institute,
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