



# Care and (re)making gender through everyday technoscience

November 7th-8th

ANU, Canberra

With support of the ANU Gender Institute



Australian  
National  
University

# Workshop on “Care and (re)making gender through everyday technoscience”

7-8 November 2024

8 Fellows Road, HC Coombs Building, School of Regulation and Global Governance

Australian National University (ANU), Acton, Canberra

With support from the ANU Gender Institute

Keynote speaker: Dr Jaya Keaney

## Background

'Care' has been studied within various scholarly fields to critically interrogate gender's relationship to activities that sustain and support life (de la Bellacasa 2011; Mol, Posser, and Pols 2010; Murphy 2015). Within science and technology studies (STS), notions of care have focussed on institutional, often healthcare, settings (Mol 2008). While productive for expanding knowledge on these particular relations and politics, many questions remain about how daily, quotidian, and unofficial relations of care materialise (Carr 2023; Rosner 2014). How does care take shape outside or alongside institutionalised settings and channels? What can we learn about how forms of care constitute gender when they are heavily influenced—and at times disrupted—by technology? How does care intersect with social markers of difference?

The ANU is hosting a 2-day workshop that addresses such questions with the aim to foster collective and critical examinations of what gender studies calls 'the everyday' (Sim 2015). By this we are referring to informal systems of care that are often not evident in formal systems and institutions, and their sometimes explicit exclusion of some marginalised groups. This forum supports scholars studying how technologies of care and caring for technologies shape what gender is and how it's done – both queering and querying the gendered compositions and representations of care.

Responses might address any of the following themes related to care, gender, and everyday technoscience:

- Unseen, underappreciated, and informal networks and platforms of care and their relationship to gender
- Care on the margins and between marginalised peoples and groups including queer and trans people, people with disabilities, people with precarious migration status, Indigenous and First Nations people, racialised groups, and more
- Care that helps people navigate institutions, structures of oppression, and breakdown
- How gender is made and remade through technoscientific forms of care
- How gendered labour shapes technoscience, data work, and platforms

- Theoretical and conceptual approaches to understanding the relationships between care, gender, and technoscience
- Critical and innovative methodologies for researching gender and care
- Troubling care and the non-innocence of care
- Care as praxis and feminist ethics of care
- Care as repair work, adaptation, and tinkering in responses to breakdown and crisis

Successful applicants will be expected to submit 2,000-5,000 word drafts of a work in progress that they want to develop through participation in the workshop. This draft paper will be due for submission prior to the workshop, no later than 11 October 2024. Participants will be expected to read two other papers in their session.

One of the aims of the workshop is to develop these papers for a special issue in an academic journal. However, this is not compulsory, and attendees are welcome to use the workshop to refine papers for publication elsewhere.

While there are no specific eligibility criteria, preference will be given to late-stage postgraduate students (i.e., writing up dissertation) and early career researchers (i.e., up to 5 years after PhD conferral).

## How to apply

Applications should include:

- An abstract (up to 300 words) of a paper that you plan to develop through participation in workshop
- A biographical statement (up to 200 words) about your educational background, and research interests

Please fill out this [Google Form](#). Email the organisers if you have trouble with accessing the Form.

## Timelines

**Applications due:** 16 August 2024

**Communication of acceptance:** from late August

**Submission of draft manuscripts (2,000-5,000 words):** 11 October 2024

**Workshop:** 7-8 November 2024 at the Australian National University in Canberra

## Costs

The workshop will provide morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea free of cost to the participants. However, all participants are expected to fund their own travel and accommodation.

## Contact

If you have any questions about the workshop, please contact Jenna ([jenna.harb@anu.edu.au](mailto:jenna.harb@anu.edu.au)) or Tate ([tate.morgan@anu.edu.au](mailto:tate.morgan@anu.edu.au)).

## References

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- de La Bellacasa, M. P. (2011). Matters of care in technoscience: Assembling neglected things. *Social studies of science*, 41(1), 85-106.
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- Murphy, M. (2015). Unsettling care: Troubling transnational itineraries of care in feminist health practices. *Social studies of science*, 45(5), 717-737.
- Rosner, D. K. (2014). Making citizens, reassembling devices: On gender and the development of contemporary public sites of repair in Northern California. *Public Culture*, 26(1), 51-77.
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