

# 2025 CONFERENCE



CONFERENCE

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MONDAY, 11/11/2025

CONFERENCE



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## Gender & Sexuality Conference at a Glance

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**8:30-9:00am**      **Registration**

**9:00-10:15am**      **Welcome & Session 1**

    room 261      Breakout 1A

    room 262      Breakout 1B

**10:30-11:45am**      **Session 2**

    room 261      Breakout 2A

    room 262      Breakout 2B

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## **Welcome and Session 1**

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9:00-10:15 am

*Breakout option 1A*



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## ***Breakout option 1B***

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9:00-10:15am

### **Cooking Up Differences: The Gendered World of Meth Cooking**

*Jacob Erickson (Iowa State University)*

Domestic methamphetamine production is largely done by mom and pop operations cooking small batches for personal use and to turn a small profit. Meth production is a highly gendered practice which sees women in a subordinated position. Drawing on semi-structured interviews with 33 former meth cooks I discuss how gender is important to the meaning meth cooks construct around their cooking and themselves. I find that all participants viewed their participation positively and universally appreciated a context in which cooking and using meth was the organizing activity. Further, they enjoyed a perceived status increase, sense of belonging, and pride associated with cooking. The specific form of these intangible rewards and the value ascribed to them varied by gender. For instance, while men were apt to discuss the easy availability of sexual partners as a redeeming feature of cooking, women viewed their cooking as a way to avoid degrading practices for drugs. Additionally, women who cooked alone suggested gender was inconsequential to the quality of a cook, while women who cooked with boyfriends and husbands tended to believe women were incapable for pulling off a cook successfully and were better suited to serve as assistants to a male cook.

### **Considering Intersectionality in Correctional Contexts: The Experiences of Women at the Margins under Correctional Supervision**

*Breanna Boppre (Wichita State University)*

The United States is the world leader in the imprisonment of women. Since the 1980s, the number of women under community and institutional supervision in the United States has risen dramatically. When disaggregating women's imprisonment rates, alarming disparities are revealed. Women of Color (Black women, Latinas, and Native American women), as well as lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women are incarcerated at disproportionately higher rates in comparison to White/heterosexual women. Importantly, disparities are heightened with multiple forms of marginalization, such as being a woman of Color and transgender.

Through this workshop, participants will gain valuable information on the composition of the U.S. correctional population and how marginality is related to system-involvement. This workshop will provide the following information to participants in an interactive, self-reflective format. First, the workshop will briefly present research on disparities in women's imprisonment. Second, the implications of mass incarceration on women at the margins will be discussed, including a summary of research examining women's experiences within systems of sanctioned social control. Dr. Boppre's own qualitative research with women on community supervision will be presented to describe the impacts of normative biases and values on contexts of correctional supervision. Finally, the workshop will conclude with tangible policy recommendations to increase inclusivity in U.S. correctional settings. Resources for activism and advocacy will also be provided.

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## Session 2

10:30-11:45

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### *Breakout option 2A*

#### **Mind the Gap: Love, Sex, and Commodifying of Masculinity**

*Connor Dougan (University of Kansas)*

As Japanese society continues to develop and innovate, the structure of understanding surrounding the complex of masculinity is modifying to be inclusive of different body types, careers, and personality traits. This project examines the relationship between masculinity and host clubs within Japan from the 1980s through present day to identify how the complex of masculinity is changing through a Japanese entertainment district medium. The identification of a shift in socially perceived masculinity stands in conjunction with Japanese men using the male body as an investment tool in the workplace by turning to grooming and showing more compassion to others. Feminist Standpoint Theory allows for the dissection of masculine traits in Japanese society while also maintaining the value of experiences of all men, allowing for future research and discussion to take place. Google Street View provides up to date billboards and advertising materials allowing for thematic coding of masculine traits such as hairstyle, build of body, and posture to pair with secondary data which illustrates the public perception of masculinity. The contrasting of visual and analytical data allows for common trends in society produced masculinity to be revealed. How the complex of masculinity in Japanese society continues to develop and be more inclusive is proven through the analysis of current data and former research. The research offers prospective hope in the development of societies and how populations, and the mindsets within, are



12:00-1:00 pm: **Lunch Break**



# Keynote Presentation





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## ***Breakout option 3B***

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**2:45-4:00 pm**

### **Coercive Control, Ungendered and Undomesticated**

*Susan Castro (Wichita State University)*

Efforts to curb domestic violence have recently shifted focus from the (now) obvious wrong of physical abuse to the wrong of non-physical abuses and the psychological tactics used to dominate domestic partners (typically women), e.g. strategies to isolate, intimidate, silence, and degrade. In the stereotypical gender-binary domestic context these strategies intersect with analogs for race, gender, and class oppression, and their efficacy is not constrained by the putatively private domestic context.

In this talk I describe how the gendering and domestication of our coercive control paradigm enables or empowers a subset of abusers to use these strategies to dominate and control people in public contexts like the workplace, and to do so against a broader class of targets. This poor fit between experienced domination and theoretical paradigm is exploited by undomesticated abusers. Current policy tacitly grants abusers safe haven in public contexts, so long as it cannot be proven that a legally protected class was targeted. The burden of undomesticated abuse nevertheless falls most heavily on the vulnerable, e.g. women and transgender people. The extension of the domestic violence model to the current coercive control model thus leaves us with an important gap where activism and better policy are needed.

More specifically, I will discuss: a) (non-historical) erasing as a strategy of marginalization, b) straw manning as a form of epistemic injustice, and c) hypocrisy as a strategy of destabilization. To characterize these, erasure trades on social identity, whereas straw manning is dishonest and hypocrisy is a threat to security. Sociality, honesty, and security represent three dimensions of moral value that extend our understanding of the wrong of coercion beyond its classic narrow understanding as assault on individual autonomy. Coercive control is often experienced by its targets as a pervasive existential threat. This is not well captured by appeal to individual autonomy. Theorizing from lived reality and functional analysis of the salient patterns of behavior presents better prospects for effective intervention.

### **Societal and Individual-Level Factors Influencing Domestic Violence Perceptions**

*Michelle Oboro (University of Kansas)*

In this experimental study we examined impact of racial category - both perceiver and target - on, and perceptions of domestic violence. African American and European American women (n=130) completed an online survey in which they read a vignette depicting escalating violence between a heterosexual couple. We manipulated the identity of the couple by describing them as either African American or European American. Our results demonstrate a main effect of severity of violence in a romantic relationship on perceptions on domestic violence in participants. Findings als TJ3(ne)4-(a)u 248 Ameellin 0 1 175.73

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