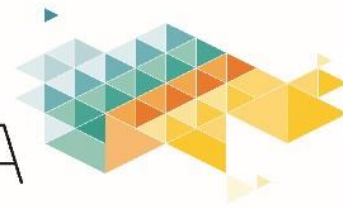




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Multiple pasts, which futures?

Re-assembling genealogies of political struggle and contestation

Workshop at the University of Bayreuth, 1-2 November 2018

Over the last decades, social theory has attended to a multiplicity of political contestations, from labour and higher-education strikes, tenants' protests and what were once called the 'new social movements' to the anti-globalization movement, indigenous activism or Occupy and Black Lives Matter. Increasingly, scholars and activists have also attended to a variety of genealogies in which political discourses and struggles have been situated, including Marxist, anarchist, feminist or queer approaches, anti-colonial and anti-racist struggles, migrant experiences and indigenous forms of knowledge and practice. Attending to this multiplicity of political genealogies, and the power relations that undergird them, has helped decentring prevalent conceptions of political contestation framed around white, European, cis-male subjectivity and the liberal-democratic state. Thus reinvigorating other pasts has also conjured new ways in which the futures of collective lives and the world have been imagined – critically and prefiguratively.

In this two-day workshop, we invite scholars and activists to reflect on the genealogies of political struggles and how these impact on visions for the future. We are particularly interested here in approaches that decentre hegemonic conceptions of political subjectivity and practice. Further, we would like to discuss both tensions and convergences that have arisen from among heterogeneous struggles and political projects. Where have critical analyses of the social and the political been productively inspired by other approaches, where have they been, suppressed, coopted and tamed? Which forms of intersectionality and transversality of struggles have emerged? And finally, to what extent has it been difficult or possible to assemble common visions of the future? To address (some of) these or related questions, we invite participants to prepare short inputs related to their research and/or political practice of around 15 minutes. These inputs could have a theoretical, empirical or political focus, and they could be framed around genealogical lineages or contemporary issues. Inputs could also focus on conundrums and paradoxes, they could present material that is puzzling, provocative or difficult to locate, and formulate questions to be discussed.

*Please send an abstract (500 words), along with a short biographical note and why you are interested in the workshop, by **August 31 2018** to: antje.daniel@uni-bayreuth.de, jan.hutta@uni-bayreuth.de or mihir.scharma@uni-bayreuth.de*

The workshop capacity is limited to around 25 participants. We seek to promote the participation especially of researchers from disadvantaged social groups. A contingent of travel bursaries will be made available to participants after the selection process.

Organized by Antje Daniel, Jan Hutta and Mihir Sharma
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