If Obama’s victory is touted as the climax of civil rights for Black Americans, the simultaneous passage of California’s Proposition 8 has been framed as an enormous unexpected set-back for lesbian and gay civil rights. Dr. Rohrer’s approach is to move away from a rights framework toward an analysis that places gay marriage in a broader context of government regulation of kinship through specifically targeted tactics aimed at particular populations. Her contention is that analyzing homonormativity and homonationalism as expressed through Prop 8 politics helps deepen our understanding of the complex machinations of governmentality and biopower in the production of proper (gay) citizens.

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