

Women's Studies Program Spotlight on Faculty Series Fall 2011



Homonormals, Homonationals & Healthy Children: Prop 8 and the 'Importance of Being Ordinary'

Dr. Judy Rohrer
Assistant Professor in Residence - Women's Studies, UConn

Monday, November 7, 2011
12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM
Beach Hall, Room 425

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.

Judy Rohrer grew up in Hawai'i and received her Ph.D. in Political Science in 2005 at the University of Hawai'i. Most recently she was a Scholar in Residence at the University of California Berkeley in their gender research unit. She also held fellowships at the University of California Santa Barbara, Syracuse University and the University of Limerick, Ireland. Her first book, [Haoles in Hawai'i](#), was published in 2010 by the University of Hawai'i Press. She has published on race and colonization in Hawai'i, gay marriage, disability studies, and citizenship in *Racial & Ethnic Studies*, *borderlands*, *Feminist Studies*, *The Contemporary Pacific*, *American Studies*, and *American Quarterly*.

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For more information, please contact the Women's Studies Program
at 860-486-3970 or wsinfo@uconn.edu