

**SOCIETY, CULTURE & THOUGHT PRESENTS:**

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# NEOLIBERALISM AND ITS DISCONTENTS

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**Monday, Sept 18, 7pm, CAPA Symposium**

**VAMSI VAKULABHARANAM, UMASS AMHERST**

***Class Inequalities in India and China in Neoliberal Times***

In his research Vakulabharanam argues for a theoretical framework that incorporates two levels of political economic processes. First, global capitalist crises lead to the creation of an institutional structure or a regime in the capitalist centers that influences inequality in these core countries and in the periphery. Second, the class configuration in the non-core countries set institutional arrangements that play a key role in determining inequality outcomes. Vakulabharanam is an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.



**Monday, Sept 25, 7PM, CAPA Symposium**

**LAINA BAY-CHENG, UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO**

***Sexuality, Choice and Power in a Neoliberal Age***

Associate Professor and PhD Program Director, School of Social Work at the University of Buffalo. Since the beginning of her career, Bay-Cheng has concentrated on the social determinants of young women's sexual well-being. In contrast to the dominant equation of youth sexuality with risk, Bay-Cheng contends that young women's vulnerability to negative sexual experiences stems from unjust social norms and material conditions. Reflecting her interdisciplinary background and perspective, she is pursuing two lines of questioning in her current research projects: 1) how young women's sexual experiences, including of unwanted sex, vary at intersections of gender, class, and race; and 2) the impact of neoliberal ideology on constructions of young women's sexuality.



**Thursday, Oct 12, 8PM, Tishman Lecture Hall**

**LISA DUGGAN, NYU**

***Up Against "The Wall": Intersectional Organizing Against the Global Right***

Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis at NYU. Journalist, activist, ambivalent academic, and a leading Queer Theorist. Author of *Twilight of Equality?: Neoliberalism, Cultural Politics and the Attack on Democracy* (Beacon, 2003) and *Sapphic Slashers: Sex, Violence and American Modernity* (Duke, 2000). Co-author with Nan Hunter of *Sex Wars: Sexual Dissent and Political Culture* (Routledge, 1995; 10th anniversary edition 2006), and co-editor with Lauren Berlant of *Our Monica, Ourselves: The Clinton Affair and National Interest* (NYU Press, 2001).



**Monday, Oct 16, 7PM, CAPA Symposium**

**FRED BLOCK, UC DAVIS**

***Capitalism the Future of an Illusion***

Professor Block is a political and economic sociologist at UC Davis. Block's work has helped debunk the widespread claims that the «free market» alone will drive the innovation process. On this score, his work is critical for a number of different constituents, in the U.S. and around the globe: scientists, creative workers, university administrators, and a host of other researchers. For the last seven years Block has been researching the activities of the U.S. government in support of the commercialization of new technologies. He has published an edited book on these programs called *State of Innovation: The U.S. Government's Role in Technology Development*. His earlier books include *The Power of Market Fundamentalism: Karl Polanyi's Critique* written with Margaret R. Somers, *The Origins of International Economic Disorder* (1977), *Postindustrial Possibilities* (1990), and *The Vampire State* (1996).