



Beyond the Culture Wars: LGBTQ History Now The 16th AHH Conference

25-26 November 2016,
La Trobe University, Melbourne
215 Franklin St, Melbourne, 3000

Contemporary sexual politics is being dominated again by the polarizing dynamic of culture wars. This conference invites contributions reflecting on the experiences of LGBTQ people living in and beyond the culture wars. As Janice Irvine has argued, culture war encounters are productive events – shaping their protagonists as much as they shape the sexual politics of the time. What can we learn from past episodes of culture wars on gay liberation, law reform, public health and education? Are there dangers in engaging in culture wars? How can we live well when our terms of existence are being questioned? How can we move beyond engagements that amplify anti-LGBTQ voices?

At Beyond the Culture Wars we want to bring together academics, students, community historians and activists to reflect on and discuss these questions. Papers, panels, workshops, posters and roundtables are invited, especially those that connect the histories of LGBTQ lives and politics with the following themes:

- Activism, social policy and community organization
- Race, Aboriginality, migration, whiteness
- Religion, culture and identity
- Comparative and international LGBTQ culture wars
- Childhood, education
- Trans, non-binary and intersex histories
- Feminist and lesbian spaces
- Media, film, documentary and art
- Sport, aging, and embodiment
- Health, medicine, pathology and pleasure
- Crime, law reform and policing
- Archiving and collecting LGBTQ histories

Confirmed keynote speakers include Russian/American journalist and LGBTQ activist Masha Gessen, feminist and queer theorist Professor Annamarie Jagose (Sydney), and sociologist and historian Professor Melissa Wilcox (Whitman College, USA), who is currently researching the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

Please send 200 word abstracts to conference2016@alga.org.au by 31 July 2016.

Papers should be 20 minutes long. Registration information will be available in August, 2016. Costs will be minimal, but we do not anticipate being able to provide accommodation or travel subsidies for participants. Conference inquiries can be addressed to Dr Timothy Jones, t.jones@latrobe.edu.au.

This conference is supported by the Australian Lesbian and Gay Archives and grants from La Trobe University's Transforming Human Societies Research Focus Area and the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.