

## Renewing the Critique of Violence: Contemporary and Historical Perspectives Workshop

Wednesday, 2 May 2007

9.30 am - 5.30 pm

Convenor: Dr Fiona Jenkins, Philosophy, ANU and Visiting Fellow, HRC

This interdisciplinary workshop takes its departure from the project of Walter Benjamin's seminal essay, the Critique of Violence (1921), to examine the economy and the elision of violence in contemporary and historical frames of justification and representation.

How does violence appear or fail to appear 'as' violence depending on who performs it and to whom? How does the West disavow its own violence and how does this disavowal draw on the legacies and renewal of empire? Does the desire for justice expressed in the discourse of international human rights acknowledge the ambiguities of action inherent in applying the force of law? And is there any ethical or political vision that might fare better here in exposing and acknowledging violence as violence?

### Speakers:

Professor Costas Douzinas (Law, Birkbeck)

Associate Professor Joseph Pugliese (Cultural and Critical Studies, Macquarie)

Dr Lorenzo Veracini (History, ANU)

Dr Fiona Jenkins (Philosophy, ANU)

Dr Adrian Little (Politics, Melbourne)

Dr Debjani Ganguly (Humanities Research Centre, ANU)

Full program available soon at [www.anu.edu.au/hrc/freilich](http://www.anu.edu.au/hrc/freilich)

This workshop is free and open to the public

Please RSVP to [freilich.foundation@anu.edu.au](mailto:freilich.foundation@anu.edu.au)

**Venue: Old Canberra House, Lennox Crossing, ANU**

**Inquiries: Email: [freilich.foundation@anu.edu.au](mailto:freilich.foundation@anu.edu.au)**

**URL: <http://www.anu.edu.au/hrc/freilich>**

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