



Spaces of Exception, Masculinity, and Testimonies of Punishment in the Imperial Valley, 1986-1994

A Talk by Jessica Ordaz, University of Washington, Seattle

Discussing state violence inside immigration detention centers in California's Imperial Valley. The neoliberalization and expansion of immigration enforcement made detention more repressive. Abuse and dehumanization were rampant, as evidenced by the testimonies of detained adults and youth. Ordaz Argues that specific areas within the detention centers became sites of concealed violence or spaces of exception.



Jessica Ordaz is the Andrew W. Mellon Sawyer Seminar Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Washington, Seattle. She obtained her Ph.D. in U.S. History from the University of California, Davis. Her research interests include Latina/o history, migration, and the carceral system. She is working on a book manuscript that will historicize the El Centro Immigration Detention Center, a facility in California's Imperial Valley, to explore the rise of immigration detention in the United States. In 2018, Ordaz will begin teaching at the University of Colorado, Boulder as an Assistant Professor in the Ethnic Studies Department

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