

SPRING 2018

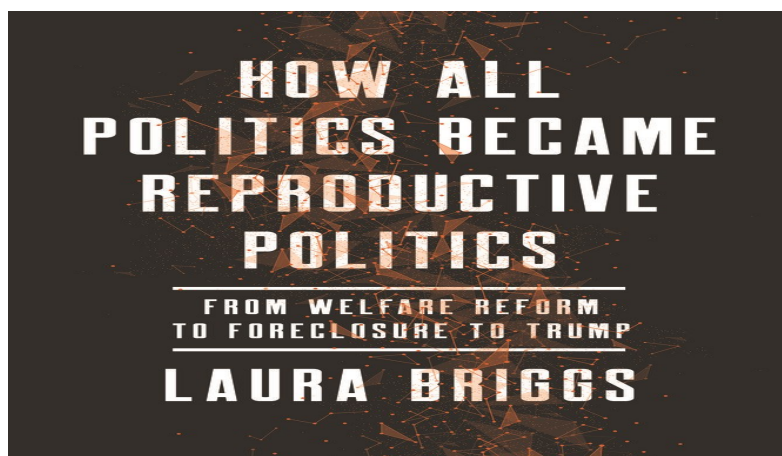
ASE COMMONS

A Series of Race, Power, and Critical Thought whose aim is to highlight the research of American Studies & Ethnicity (ASE) core and affiliated faculty and graduate students, and to build community through sustained conversations and workshops.

*Where Did Trump Come From?
Reproductive Politics, Whiteness,
and Neoliberalism*

**SPEAKER: Laura
Briggs**

Chair and Professor,
Women, Gender, Sexuality
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**Thu, April 12
3 - 5:00pm
KAP 445**

For many inside and outside the United States, the election of Donald J. Trump seemed to come out of nowhere—what happened to the decent people who elected Barack Obama? This talk argues the opposite: Trump is not exceptional, but the normal face of the Republican Party over the past 40 years (albeit slightly more blunt). It explores the ways that both white supremacy and neoliberalism have been enacted through attacks on the reproduction and family forms particularly of women of color — from welfare “reform” that eliminated support for single mothers (by portraying those receiving government benefits as Black and Latinx) to crackdowns on immigrants that have particularly targeted household workers to a home-loan debacle that crashed the global economy while blaming (surprise!) Black and Latinx single mothers, not banks or lenders. Meanwhile, the pain of the neoliberal austerity policies that these events authorized was centered on households, by turning an ever-widening series of former government functions into the “private” labor of households.

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