In the United States, documented cases of autism have increased more than ten fold over the past several decades. This dramatic change has become the source of considerable controversy, raising questions about what lies behind these rising numbers and what should be done in response. In this talk, Lappé discusses the relationships between these debates, autism research, and family experiences of the condition. Drawing on participant observation, document analysis, and interviews with scientists, advocates, and mothers of children diagnosed with autism, this talk specifically describes the emergence, practices, and consequences of autism gene-environment interaction research. Building on scholarship in medical sociology and feminist science and technology studies, Lappé addresses how this area of research is repositioning when, where, and how we locate and act upon health and illness. She will discuss how this is taking place in relationship to women’s bodies and reproductive decisions in particular, and how this may be shifting in interesting ways in recent years. Lappé introduces the concept of Anticipating Autism as one way of understanding gene-environment interaction research and its consequences for thinking about the body, health and illness in the post-genomic era. The talk will describe the political, material, and affective dimensions of Anticipating Autism, and its relationships to scientific knowledge production and family life.