

The Long Shadow of Watts: Policing, Violence and the Persistence of Black Inequality in the United States

A Roundtable Discussion
Lunch served

Wednesday, April 29, 2015, 12:00 – 1:30 PM
191 College Avenue, 1st Floor, New Brunswick, NJ



Johnna Christian (School of
Criminal Justice, RU-Newark)

Patrick Carr (Sociology, RU – NB)

Marie Gottschalk (Political Science,
Univ. of Pennsylvania)

Lisa L. Miller (Political Science, RU-
NB)

Melanye Price (Africana Studies, RU-
NB)

This August marks the 50th anniversary of the Watts uprising in Los Angeles, precipitated by a police encounter with African-American citizens, which resulted in 34 deaths, over 1,000 injuries, and destruction of more than 200 buildings. High rates of joblessness, poor housing and bad schools, routinized police use of force against Black residents, and other forms of racial discrimination were at the core of these events.

Recent events in Ferguson and Staten Island and other cities across the country have brought national attention to many, if not all, of the same inequalities and suffering that rose to prominence in the aftermath of Watts. Why? How can we stand, fifty years later, at so many of the same crossroads?

Join an interdisciplinary group of scholars to discuss the contemporary state of racial inequality in the United States and the possibilities for change by focusing on the life of urban Blacks, policing, crime, and the criminal justice system.

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