XXIV International and Interdisciplinary Colloquium of the Association des Étudiant(e)s Diplômé(e)s du Département d'Histoire de l'Université de Montréal (AÉDDHUM)

Conceptualising Violence: An Exploration of its Representations and Dynamics | March 29-30-31 2017

The study of physical violence has largely been present in historical research, exemplified, for instance, in the history of warfare, but its conceptual analysis has taken a new turn in recent years. Other forms of less overt violence are taken into account by historians who reconsider the subjective as well as objective places where it is expressed. When conceived of in personal memories, or in collective lieux de mémoire, the notion of violence expands. Through its interpretation and reinterpretation, the impacts of violence through time and space are constantly being revised; institutional violence occurs through social consent, while events of a non-physical nature are shown to be initiated with coercion and power. Memory of traumatic events are contested and reinterpreted by victims and perpetrators alike, much to the disarray of many historians who attempt to reach an understanding of more recent events. The discipline can grow from these new challenges by considering interdisciplinary approaches (anthropology, archaeology, sociology, etc.) as well as new sources (images, art, etc.) and methodologies.

The organising committee is currently accepting proposals for its XXIV International and Interdisciplinary colloquium. Although potential research questions are undoubtedly diverse, here are some examples of what would be of interest: How is violence understood at a certain time? How is violence conceptualised in memory and in the social collective? How can a violent event be reinterpreted through time, in private or public discourse, and in commemoration or remembrance? And what does this express about the individuals or societies who hold these memories and discourses? How can the concept of violence be understood through the use of concepts of race, gender, class relations, etc.? Following are three larger questions which researchers may want to explore:

- Considering violence through time as well as its various representations (ideological, physical, psychological, verbal, etc.)
- Exploring violence as it is (re)interpreted and through its formation and structure in memory and through acts of remembrance (speech, acts of violence, legal violence, literature, cinema, commemoration, environment of, historiography, etc.)
- Case studies which explore the dynamics of violence in history: Memory (collective or individual), national and identity construction, justice, war and post-war, as well as in relation to the Other (race, gender, class relations, religion, family, international relations, etc.)

We cordially invite researchers interested by the theme, starting at the graduate levels of all disciplines, to submit a proposal in order to present their research at the XXIV International and Interdisciplinary Colloquium of the Association des Étudiant(e)s Diplômé(e)s du Département d'Histoire de l'Université de Montréal (AÉDDHUM). This event offers an opportunity to present your research in front of peers, exchange with colleagues and professors, as well as publish your results.

Proposals can be sent in English or in French (maximum of 250 words) by December 11th, 2016 at midnight, to the following address: xxiv.colloque.aeddhum@gmail.com with a duplicate (c.c.) to cussonjeanchristophe@gmail.com. Please indicate your full name and institution, as well as any requests for funding, with the estimated trip cost, if necessary.