

Monday, May 6, 2024

4pm in Filene Auditorium

[José Medina, Northwestern University](#)

"Counter-Communities, Uncivil Resistance and Queer Epistemic Activism"

Abstract: "This talk will argue that the fight against stigmatizing forms of social exclusion requires uncivil resistance and participation in a community whose counter-practices prefigure a new sensibility and the abolition of unjust social arrangements. I argue that, when confronting stigmatizing taboos, protests must be uncivil in order to confront (and transform) sensibilities through epistemic and affective friction. I argue that a central part of the task of uncivil resistance is what I call epistemic activism, which consists in subversive practices that resist stigmatizing silences and deploy epistemic and affective friction against dominant sensibilities. The talk will focus on multiracial queer activism and the social silences that differently racialized queer activists fight. Examples will include the Cooper Do-nuts Riot of 1959 in L.A., the Stonewall Riots of 1969 in New York City, and the visibility actions of Queer Nation in the 1990's."

Part of the Philosophy Department's Race, Gender, and Justice lecture series. For more information, please visit: <https://philosophy.dartmouth.edu/menueature/news-events/lecture-series/race-gender-and-justice-lecture-series>

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