

# Kritische Türkeistudien

## Öffentliche Ringvorlesung am Institut für Turkistik

Sommersemester 2017

**Mittwoch, den 17.05.2017, 18-20 Uhr**

Universität Duisburg-Essen (Campus Essen), R14 R02 B07

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### **Sexual Politics of the Turkish State in the Kurdish Conflict**

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This talk is about the gender and sexuality regime of the ongoing war in Turkey. This regime finds its expression not only in the material proceedings of the war but also at the level of representation—two levels that often collide into and always nurture each other. In order to understand the current regime, this talk investigates three dominant representations of Kurdish women and follow their transformation in dialog with the Kurdish Women's Liberation Movement and the Turkish state's changing warfare.

These three representations are of 'the freedom fighter', 'the woman who needs saving' and 'the degraded terrorist'. In these representations, sexuality plays a prominent role because Kurdish women are constructed as having an always over-present sexuality. Whether it is the 'modest' sexuality of the mother or the 'uncontrollable desire' of the childless guerrilla, women are addressed and targeted in their corporeal capacities. How this targeting has shifted during the current state of emergency is what this talk aims to clarify.

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Vortrag auf Englisch