

DEBRA PARKES INAUGURAL LECTURE

WOMEN, LAW AND THE VIOLENCE OF INCARCERATION

Feminist scholarship and activism have been crucial to the rising attention we see in law and society to the prevalence and harms of violence against women. At the same time, women – and particularly Indigenous women – constitute the fastest growing prison population in Canada, with similar trends evident globally. Professor Debra Parkes critically examines the central role that incarceration plays in our legal and societal responses to violence, identifying ways that research about imprisonment, particularly its gendered and racialized harms, disrupts and unsettles key principles of sentencing law and policy. Drawing on examples from Canada and abroad, she discusses the possibilities and challenges of bringing an anti-carceral feminist analysis to litigation and law reform efforts to address violence.



DEBRA PARKES BA LLB LLM

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Professor Debra Parkes joined the Allard School of Law at UBC in 2016 as Chair in Feminist Legal Studies. Before joining Allard Law, she spent 15 years as a member of the Faculty of Law, University of Manitoba where she served as Associate Dean from 2013-2016. She researches and teaches in the fields of criminal and constitutional law, with a particular focus on (in)equality, social justice, and the experiences of women in criminal and correctional systems. Professor Parkes has received funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada to examine mechanisms for oversight and accountability of imprisonment and she is beginning a new project to study the law, policy, and lived experience of life sentences in Canada. She was the editor-in-chief of the *Canadian Journal of Women and Law* from 2009-2013 and in 2015 she guest edited a special volume of the *Canadian Journal of Human Rights* on solitary confinement and human rights.

5:00pm – 6:00pm: Lecture | 6:00pm – 7:00pm: Reception

RSVP to eventassistant@allard.ubc.ca

This event qualifies for 1 CPD credit

JANUARY

25

THURSDAY

5:00PM –
7:00PM

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