DEADLINE APPROACHING - CfP "The Search for Humanity after Atrocity" Conference - Deadline March 30, 2022

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The Search for Humanity after Atrocity
A Conference for Engaged Scholars and Informed Practitioners

October 16-17, 2022
Kean University - Union, NJ*

Conference Website

***Participant Registration Now Open***

Call for Papers

October 16-17, 2022

The Holocaust and Genocide Studies Program at Kean University is pleased to invite presentation submissions for the conference “The Search for Humanity after Atrocity” to be held at Kean University in Union, NJ, on October 16-17, 2022. *Our intention is to have an in person conference with the understanding that the need may arise to shift to a virtual format depending on the current status of the Covid-19 pandemic.* The conference is an opportunity for scholars, especially at early stages of their careers, and NGO and other non-profit practitioners to compare and reflect, in a spirit of reciprocity, on the search for post-atrocity humanity or at least order and stability, if not reconciliation, with an emphasis on victims’ perspectives. The conference will culminate with proposals designed for enactment. The conference invites participants to submit abstracts addressing one or more of the following themes:

Collective memory: How do societies, and social groups within a society, remember or seek to forget atrocities in official and unofficial ways? How do societies, and social groups within a society, reinterpret atrocity over time? How do these memory modalities help or hurt the search for humanity after atrocity?
Civil Society-State Relationship: What is the role of civil society, particularly in relationship with the state, to promote a post-atrocity social order or, broadly, humanity? What structural conditions enable civil society to play a role vis-à-vis government?

Lingering Adversarial Relationships: How do survivors and perpetrators find ways to participate in public life after atrocity? How does living through atrocity inform survivors’ intra- and inter-relationships? How do survivors manage relationships with known perpetrators particularly when perpetrator accountability is absent or compromised? When do survivors’ testimonies help and when do they hurt the chances for post-atrocity humanity or stability?

Strategies for Mending Relationships: When has geographical partition worked? When and why is past wrongdoing deflected, acknowledged, suppressed, or confronted? How effective is education as a preventative measure? When do social media encourage or discourage favorable post-conflict trajectories? How is resource revitalization reimagined in the wake of environmental depletion? Are restorative/transitional justice and other peacemaking schemes effective?

The Arts, Memorials, and Material Culture: Are music, architecture, storytelling and other forms of artistic expression redemptive? Do these particular fields have the ability to help survivors and/or the broader community seek humanity after atrocity? How does commemoration of victims inform the direction of the search for humanity after atrocity?

Submitting your abstract:

1. Group presentations that combine scholars and practitioners by topic will receive priority consideration.

2. Presentations that explore concepts and practices from victims’ perspectives will also receive priority consideration.

3. Proposals that include models of enactment will additionally receive priority consideration. Examples are: open-source, interactive database of artifacts and interviews for use by survivors, educators, researchers, and practitioners; restorative and transitional justice projects; a published volume of essays by and for policymakers, practitioners, and engaged scholars; special issues of academic and not-for-profit journals for scholars and practitioners; and a website, a digital newsletter, and social media platforms for sustaining and increasing a network of
concerned policymakers and engaged scholars in common search for humanity after atrocity.

4. **Complete the following Google Form to submit your abstract by March 31, 2022:** [Abstract Submission Form]

5. We will notify all submitters of the program committee’s decisions no later than April 15, 2022.

6. For details about the conference, visit the [conference website](https://networks.h-net.org/node/28655/discussions/9945105/deadline-approaching-cfp-search-humanity-after-atrocity). The conference is sponsored and hosted by Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Kean University. It is cosponsored by The Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace & Conflict Resolution, George Mason University; Sutton School of Social Sciences at Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas; College of Public Affairs, University Baltimore *in formation*.