The Center for Gulf Studies (CGS), in collaboration with the Department of Social & Behavioral Sciences at the American University of Kuwait present a lecture entitled:

TRAFFICKING, TERROR AND THEIR TROPES

Presented by:

Dr. Pardis Mahdavi

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Department of Anthropology
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Dr. Pardis Mahdavi is Associate Professor and Chair at the Department of Anthropology at Pomona College, California. Her research interests include gendered labor, migration, sexuality, human rights, youth culture, transnational feminism, and public health in the context of changing global and political structures. Her published works include two books; Passionate Uprisings: Iran’s Sexual Revolution, and Gridlock: Labor, Migration and ‘Human Trafficking’ in Dubai.

A decade into two of America’s most problematic and elusive wars, the “war on terror” and the “war on trafficking,” presents a time for reflection about the global ramifications of the furthering of U.S. Empire. This presentation examines the suturing of these two wars. The “war on terror” and the “war on trafficking,” two seemingly separate initiatives, have become interwoven in recent years and conspire to castigate Muslim majority countries as sites of depravity, difference and danger, fueling Islamophobic rhetoric about the “clash of civilizations” (Huntington 1993). These discourses are resulting in a series of policies and sometimes militarized responses that are hurting vulnerable populations globally, but particularly in the Middle East. This presentation will critique the discourses on trafficking and terror, particularly focusing on their negative aftereffects in terms of policies pertaining to the Middle East.

DATE:
Monday 27th May, 2013

TIME:
6:00 pm

VENUE:
Auditorium

www.auk.edu.kw/cgs

This lecture will be conducted in English