The University of Miami Institute for Advanced Study of the Americas

Cordially invite you to a

DISTINGUISHED FELLOWS RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM

How Political Regime Type and Market Liberalization Shape Organized Crime:
Mexico and Russia During Political Transitions
Yulia Vorobyeva, Department of International Studies

“Ever-ready to look after [U.S.] interests”: The American Red Cross
and the U.S. Occupation of Haiti
Matthew Davidson, Department of History

The Impact of Family Cohesion and Culturally-Informed
Family Therapy on Negative Symptoms of Schizophrenia
Caitlin Brown, Department of Psychology

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2017

12:30 PM - 4:00 PM

RSVP

Albert Pick Hall
1541 Brescia Ave. Suite 110
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Lunch Provided
AGENDA

12:30 PM - LUNCH

12:55 PM - WELCOME AND PRESENTATION OF COLLOQUIUM FORMAT AND OBJECTIVES

1:00 PM - 1:55 PM - SESSION ONE

How Political Regime Type and Market Liberalization Shape Organized Crime: Mexico and Russia During Political Transitions

Yulia Vorobyeva, Department of International Studies

Why didn’t democratization strengthen the rule of law in Mexico and Russia, two countries where concurrent processes of economic and political liberalization occurred in the last decade of the 20th century? Why did Russian organized crime become less violent and more controllable after Russia reverted to authoritarianism after 2000? The comparison of Mexico and Russia suggests how political regimes affect the nature of organized crime. Organized crime becomes more fragmented, more violent and less controllable while democracies are taking hold but have not yet consolidated. Put differently, the forces of organized crime are frequently more stable and cohesive, but less violent and more subject to state elites, under more authoritarian regimes. This research suggests that the driving forces behind these criminal transformations are the capacity of state security institutions and criminal opportunity structures created by shifting market incentives and structures. The capacity of state security institutions, in turn, is affected by the degree of political decentralization, the levels of electoral competition and the robustness of civil society.

Respondents: Sallie Hughes, Department of Journalism and Media Management
Michael Touchton, Political Science Department

2:00 PM-2:55 PM - SESSION TWO

“Ever-ready to look after [U.S.] interests”: The American Red Cross and the U.S. Occupation of Haiti

Matthew Davidson, Department of History

Shortly after the United States invaded Haiti in 1915 the American Red Cross (ARC) was called upon to respond to the “considerable suffering” said to exist within Port-au-Prince. It was the first time that the Red Cross had been called to work in Haiti and it set the tone for all subsequent engagements with the country. Examining ARC operations throughout the occupation (1915-1934), this paper reveals how the humanitarian agency came to have a central role within the U.S. imperial project in Haiti. Arguing that the ARC was a key component in how the U.S. military authorities administered the island republic, this paper suggests the need to reconsider how committed those authorities actually were to the program of development and “uplift” which defined the occupation.

Respondents: Tracy Devine-Guzman, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
Patricia Saunders, Department of English
AGENDA

3:00 PM-3:55 PM - SESSION THREE

The Impact of Family Cohesion and Culturally-Informed Family Therapy on Negative Symptoms of Schizophrenia

Caitlin Brown, Department of Psychology

Negative symptoms, such as affective flattening, anhedonia, and alogia, play a significant role in the functional impairment associated with schizophrenia and often persist even when positive symptoms are under control. In spite of recent research indicating the malleability of negative symptoms, the impact of cognitive-behavioral and other treatments on negative symptoms remains understudied. The present study aimed to assess the impact of a culturally informed family therapy for schizophrenia (CIT-S) on negative symptoms over time. Because CIT-S promoted family cohesion as a means of reducing maladaptive communication and expressed emotion, the impact of patient and family member perceptions of family cohesion on patient outcomes was also assessed. In a sample of 266 patients and family members nested within 111 families, hierarchical linear modeling was employed to test whether CIT-S would reduce negative symptoms on the Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS) above and beyond treatment as usual (family psychoeducation; PSY-ED). The results suggest that CIT-S outperformed PSY-ED in reducing negative symptoms, and that family cohesion may be one aspect of family treatment that significantly improves patient outcomes. Implications for clinical practice with ethnic minority families are discussed.

Respondents: Viviana Horigian, Department of Public Health Sciences
Victoria Orrego Dunleavy, Communication Studies Department

- Closing Remarks -

UM community members registering for the event may receive the papers being presented one week prior in order to offer feedback on these works in progress. Please send an email to mia@miami.edu to request the paper in advance.