“Algorithms of Pain: Towards an Understanding of TLGBQ Latin@ Narratives of Harm”

The ways Latin@ transgender, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and queer (TLGBQ) folks construct their narratives of pain, suffering, fear, and harm share many similarities but also differ in various important ways. This presentation forwards the concept of *algorithms of pain* as a means to understand why strong similarities and differences can exist amongst TLGBQ Latin@ experiences of *social harm*. In particular, *algorithms of pain* aids in our understanding of how individuals who have seemingly similar events occur in their lives can have radically different experiences and opinions about them. *Algorithms of pain* seeks to sidestep many of conceptual limitations within the established fields of sociology, criminology, law and society, and critical race, gender, and sexuality studies; limitations that are largely rooted in the taken-for-granted epistemologies and ontologies found within the theories and categories of each area of study, especially as they relate to violence, crime, deviance, discrimination, and oppression.