HOMELAND IN/SECURITY:

Race and Citizenship in the United States

New England American Studies Association

September 15-16, 2006 University of Southern Maine Portland, Maine



Image: Richard Mock, Homeland Security. Linocut Print.

* * Call for Papers * *

The current political moment presents new opportunities and imperatives to examine historical and contemporary formations of race and citizenship in the United States.

Race and citizenship are central to the "war on terror" in all its aspects. Transnationally, the racialized politics of US citizenship inform detainments at Guantánamo Bay (of deported Haitians as well as of multiply racialized Muslims) and the other "black sites" including Abu Ghraib, as much as they inform the ongoing military expansion in Guam, Puerto Rico, and Hawai'i. The war is also waged within United States borders, where race and citizenship are central to military recruitment policies, Patriot Act injustices, and the color-coded corruptions of homeland security.

Of course, this is not merely a military issue: Race and citizenship also define other pressing social issues including Katrina and the failures of Post-Katrina, education, prison, healthcare, immigration legislation, and the broad-based assault on indigenous sovereignty.

Race and citizenship in the United States have long genealogies. Understanding the history of race and citizenship is made doubly urgent by the contemporary circumstances. This conference will provide an opportunity to assess both current and historical materials in the explosive context of the United States post 9/11. NEASA invites proposals that consider this topic from every angle, including historical, social, political, economic, aesthetic, literary, cinematic and discursive strategies for addressing these questions in our work today. Papers and panels with a regional New England focus are welcome and we hope to receive proposals from scholars, teachers, cultural workers, and curators working within a range of institutions, cultural locations, and disciplines.

SUGGESTED TOPICS:

the early national period the politics of suffrage the war in Iraq visual codes of race cultural citizenship alienation outsider racialization governmentality nativism genealogies of the state blood and genetics race and violence equal protection racial exclusion racialization of sexuality disenfranchisement of felons the US Supreme Court Indian gaming sexuality border patrols

the civil war WWII immigration legislation writing citizenship and race political rights cultural citizenship racializing indigeneity criminalization indigenous sovereignty rights tribal governance and membership reparations forced inclusion land and belonging DNA testing the Voting Rights Act local government pedagogy poets of nationalism policing

Please submit abstract and CV in Word, Wordperfect, or hardcopy by March 15, 2006 to:

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