

Program

Valuations of Life: Birth defects, prenatal diagnosis, and disability

International workshop at Uppsala University, Sweden, 25–26 September 2018

Location (unless otherwise stated): *Rausingrummet*, Department of the History of Science and Ideas, Thunbergsvägen 3P, Campus Engelska Parken, Uppsala (floor 2 ½)

Day 1: September 25, 2018

9–9.30 Coffee and registration

9.30–10.00 Welcome

10.00–12.00 Morning session: Valuing life with disabilities vs. women's/parents' rights

- Birte Kohtz, Deutsches Historisches Institut Moskau – “On cost efficiency and private happiness: Prenatal diagnostics and its impact on the value of life with disability in late Soviet Union”
- Samuel Pierce, University of South Carolina Aiken – “A Historical Perspective on Down Syndrome, Prenatal Diagnosis, and Abortions in Spain, 1960-1990”
- Lena Lennerhed, Södertörn University – “Sherri Finkbine flew to Sweden. Abortion and Disability in Sweden in the early 1960s”
- Anna Tunlid, Uppsala University – “Prenatal diagnosis and public debates about selective abortions in Sweden”

12.00–13.00 Lunch

13.00–15.15 Afternoon session I: Valuations of life in relation to specific technologies

- Tinne Claes, KU Leuven – “(Un)wanted pregnancies and the reimbursement of IVF in Belgium, ca 1983–2003”
- Chunchun Wang, The Chinese University of Hong Kong – “Be a Good Prosthesis User in a Rehabilitation Center in Chengdu, China”

(Short break 14.00–14.15)

- Tanfer Emin Tunc, Hacettepe University Ankara – “Evaluating Life: Fetal Surgery, Abortion and Disability Rights in the United States”
- Annika Berg, Uppsala University – “Rays of Death and Visions of Life: Risk Evaluation and the Framing of Ultrasound as a Safe Technology for Prenatal Diagnosis”

15.15–15.45 Coffee

15:45–17.15 Afternoon session II: Valuations of life in relation to specific medical conditions

- Lisa Pruitt, Middle Tennessee State University – “Non-treatment Decision-making for Impaired Newborns: Disability in the 20th-Century US and UK”
- Maria Björkman, Uppsala University – “The Janus Face of Social Engineering: Examples from the Swedish Thalidomide Case”
- Christine Chisholm, Carleton University, "Conformity, resistance, deviance: shaping identities in the wake of the Canadian Thalidomide scandal" (Skype presentation).

20.00 Conference dinner, Aaltos (Syslomanstgatan 14)

Day 2: September 26, 2018

9.00–10.00 Keynote lecture

- Susanne Klausen, Carleton University – “Contesting Eugenic Abortion: Transnational Feminism, Eugenics and the Legacy of the Thalidomide Tragedy in the Ongoing Struggle for Women’s Reproductive Freedom”

10.00–10.30 Coffee

10.30–12.00 Morning session: Valuations of life: administrative, governmental and political perspectives

- Rikard Friberg von Sydow, Södertörn University – “Administration against the unwanted”

- Shu Wan, University of Iowa – “The Use of Disability as a Category in Studying the Public Perception of Chinese Immigrants in Late 19th Century California”
- Tuba Demirci Yılmaz, Altınbas University – “Women’s Reproductive Autonomy under a Moral Offensive: Contesting of ‘Necessary-Permissible Abortions’ as the Neglected Core of Anti-Abortion Debates in Turkey in the Age of Advanced Prenatal Screening, 2003-2018”

12.00–13.00 Lunch

13.00–14.30 Afternoon session I: Support groups, activism, social media and valuations of life on a grassroots level

- Vincenza Mazzeo, Johns Hopkins University – “*SPEAKing* a History of Women’s Health Activism: Cervical Cancer, Ordinary Women(?), and the Limits of “Biomedical Empires” in South Africa, 1982–1994”
- Anna-Malin Karlsson, Stockholm University – “A Normal Child or a Heart Child?”
- Bernd Marquardt, Universitätsmedizin der Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz – “Irregular Birth Passages – Fatherhood, Prenatal Diagnosis and the Value of Life”

14.30–15.00 Coffee

15.00–17.00 Afternoon session II: Valuations of life across time, space and imagination

- Whitney Dirks, Grand Valley State University – “Lucrative Entertainment or Godly Warning? The Value of Physical Abnormality in England, 1450-1800”
- Hieke Huistra, Utrecht University – “Depicting normal: Illustrations of ‘normal’ and ‘pathological’ pregnancies and births in Dutch obstetrical handbooks, 1890-1940”
- Josefine Wälivaara, Umeå University – “Future Technologies, Contemporary Values: Reproduction and Disability in Science Fiction Narratives”
- Carol Berger, Commonwealth scholar – “‘Gift of God’ or ‘Freak of Nature’: A Cross-cultural Look at the Value of an (im)Perfect Being”

17.00–ca 17.15 Conclusion