



« Ouvertures » Cycle



*Thinking with narco-feminism:*

Towards gender-sensitive, trauma-informed models of care



**Wednesday, July 10th**  
**14h30 - 16h (CEST Paris)**

As part of its "Ouvertures" seminar series dedicated to international research and emerging issues related to illicit drugs, [D3S Program](#) "Drugs, social sciences and societies" of EHESS/INSERM, with the support of IRESP, is pleased to welcome:

**Dr. Kiran Pienaar, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia**

On this occasion, in a critical approach to gender-based studies of drug use, Kiran Pienaar will present research recently published in the book [Narco-feminisms: Revisioning Drug Use](#) which she co-edited. This study explores the political potential of drug use as a mode of resistance to dominant social orders. Focusing on acts of care, resistance and ingenuity in the drug practices of women and gender minorities, this alternative analysis inspired by the narco-feminist activist movement, offers a critical and innovative perspective inviting us to rethink drug use as a way of life, capable of transforming social worlds.

Kiran will offer a perspective on this work, based on the life story of a woman named Kim. This story telling will look back at Kim's experiences of life and the abstinence-based treatments that sought to change her. In doing so, the analysis seeks to make room for the kind of embodied, intimate political work that is often neglected in more formal drug user activism and organisation. Building on this narco-feminist, a new Australian qualitative study of trauma, gender and alcohol and other drug-related issues will be introduced.

[Dr Kiran Pienaar](#) is a Senior Lecturer in Sociology at Deakin University, Melbourne Australia. She is also an adjunct Senior Research Fellow at the Australian Centre for Research in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University. Kiran's research focuses on gender, sexuality and the body, particularly in relation to drug consumption and sexual cultures; and the social dimensions of health and illness. She is a Co-Editor of the journal *Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience*. Kiran is the author of [Politics in the Making of HIV/AIDS in South Africa](#) (Palgrave).

*The event will be in English and will take place solely [online](#).  
Please RSVP to get all details by clicking on the following link:*

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