

Workshop on the Sexual Abuse of Men during War

The Gender Studies Program at Mada al-Carmel hosted **Professor Dubravka Zarkov** for a seminar on **violence practiced against men during war**, and media approach on the issue.

During the seminar Professor Dubravka Zarkov stated that, “The American press, which provided extensive coverage of sexual assault by male and female American soldiers against Iraqi prisoners at the Abu Ghraib prison, dealt with the abusers as if they stood outside of the American military culture, and as deviants who do not represent American society.”

Professor Zarkov had conducted a review of the Serbian and Croatian press during the period of warfare (1991-1995). Her findings suggested that there was a clear disparity in media coverage of sexual assaults committed against men and women in terms of the amount and intensity of the coverage; the Serbian press did not cover any sexual assault against men, while the Croatian press dealt with the issue only briefly. In her interpretation of these findings, Professor Zarkov argued that as the war was a national civil war, sexual assault practiced against men was overlooked in order to not damage the image of manhood.

Professor Dubravka Zarkov has taught sociology, anthropology, development and women’s studies in the Former Yugoslavia and the Netherlands. Her principal research interests include the politics of representation (in the media) of gender, sex and race within the contexts of war and violence.

For further information click [here](#).