

Einladung zum Gastvortrag

**Prof Jenny Reardon**

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**am Mittwoch, den 12. Juni 2019,  
16 – 18 Uhr, Raum SH 3.106**

**The Postgenomic Condition:  
Truth, Race and Justice After the Genome**

At the end of the last millennium, the proposal of the Human Genome Diversity Project and the imminent publication of Herrnstein and Murray's (1994) controversial bestseller, *The Bell Curve*, sparked worries that the new science of genomics would reignite scientific racism. Since WWII, human geneticists have labored to distance the study of human genes from eugenics and the Nazi regime. Would those efforts, and the possibility of a genomic account of human differences, be undone before human genome research had even really begun? To avert this possibility, in the wake of the sequencing of the human genome—or the postgenomic era—genome scientists and their supporters proposed a new 'democratic' approach to genomics. In several high profile cases, they offered to give back to "the people" the power to define themselves, and to control use of their DNA. Yet the problem of race and racism persisted. This talk explains how and by what means debates about 'race' and racism have remain central and formative of the postgenomic condition.