

30th of June
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (CET)
hybrid
SSC 2/107 and Zoom

Empathy & Society

Colloquium.

The Dark Side of

Empathy

Free registration: via e-mail to kkc@rub.de
Please indicate whether you would like to attend in person or online

The second decade of the 21st century has harbored a growing trend among scholars from a variety of disciplines to place empathy at the center of the debate on human psychology, culture, ethics, economics, and political solidarity. Within the field of social and cultural psychology, empathy is hypothesized to be a benefactor in favorable human behaviors such as altruism and care for others. This hypothesis is also shared by many mental-health practitioners today, who consider empathy to be part and parcel of their psychotherapeutic technique. However, several contemporary scholars within the field of psychology, sociology and cultural theory have recently come to critique the immaculate appreciation of the notion of empathy. The Empathy & Society Colloquium will focus on the critique of empathy as the "grand theme of our time" (de Waal, 2010). Tackling its hyper-polysemy and re-evaluating its potential applications within the fields of social and cultural psychology, ethics, politics, and psychoanalytic psychotherapy. Presentations in the colloquium will explore the 'dark side' of empathy, offering a more nuanced perspective on the contemporary focus on empathy.

With Contributions from

ROLAND BOLZ
(Humboldt University, Berlin)

LEON BRENNER
(KKC, Ruhr-University Bochum)

CLINT BURNHAM
(Simon Fraser University, Vancouver)

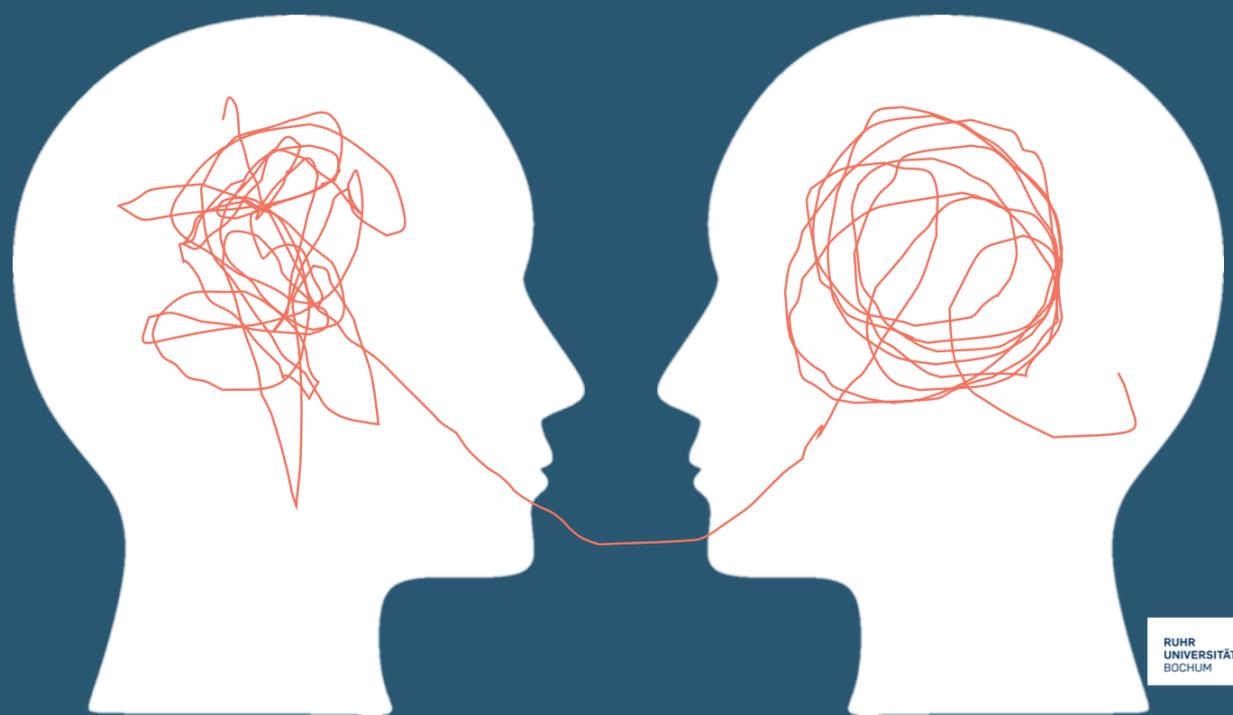
RAZAK KHAN
(University of Göttingen)

PHIL LANGER
(International Psychoanalytic University Berlin)

LIZZY SHEPPARD
(University of Nottingham)



Hans Kilian
und Lotte Köhler-
Centrum



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Empathy & Society Colloquium. The Dark Side of Empathy

PROGRAMM

09:00-09:20	Introduction
09:20-10:40	Roland Bolz - <i>Language and Metaphors of Empathy</i>
10:40-10:50	Short break
10:50-12:10	Clint Burnham - <i>Empathic contagion and the plague</i>
12:10-13:40	Lunch Break
13:40-15:00	Lizzy Sheppard - <i>Rethinking empathy in autism</i>
15:00-16:20	Phil Langer - <i>Empathy in empirical and clinical supervision</i>
16:20-16:30	Short break
16:30-17:50	Razak Khan - <i>Decolonizing empathy</i>
17:50-18:00	Final words

KKC

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