

The Future of Freedom Reparations after 400

Nov 18

1:00–2:30 PM

The year 2019 represented the 400th anniversary of the forced arrival of enslaved Africans in the English colonies at Point Comfort, Virginia in 1619. In the history of the African-American experience throughout this period there have been many gains in the liberation of the formerly enslaved. However, with the continuation of the conditions of structural impoverishment and systemic and violent racism, the ultimate liberation for African-Americans remains to be realized. In the event, “The Future of Freedom: Reparations after 400,” a distinguished panel of scholars will consider what the question of reparations means for this freedom’s fulfillment and what kind of future could follow for African-Americans beyond 400.

MODERATED BY:



bertrall ross

Bertrall Ross
Chancellor’s Professor of Law
UC Berkeley

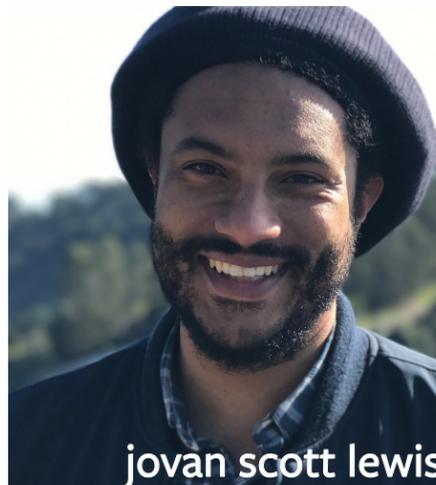
Watch Live @ belonging.berkeley.edu/reparations. Cart captioning will be provided.



katherine franke

Repair: Redeeming the Promise of Slavery’s Abolition

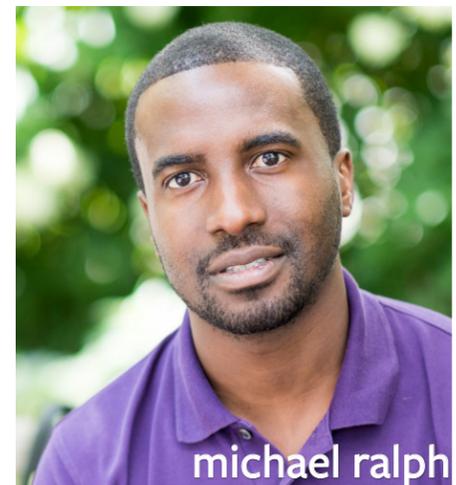
Katherine Franke is the James L. Dohr Professor of Law at Columbia University. Her book, *Repair: Redeeming the Promise of Slavery’s Abolition* (Haymarket Press 2019), makes the case for racial reparations in the United States by returning to a time at the end of the Civil War when many formerly enslaved people were provided land explicitly as a form of reparation for slavery. Her first book, *Wedlocked: The Perils of Marriage Equality* (NYU Press 2015), considers the costs of winning marriage rights for same sex couples today and for African Americans at the end of the Civil War. She was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2011 to support research for *Wedlocked*. Professor Franke also chairs the Board of Trustees of the Center for Constitutional Rights, a civil and human rights advocacy non-profit based in New York City.



jovan scott lewis

Criminal Repair

Jovan Scott Lewis is an Assistant Professor of Geography and African-American Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. He also serves in the Economic Disparities Research Cluster at Berkeley’s Othering and Belonging Institute. He received his Ph.D. in anthropology from the London School of Economics. His research focuses on the experiences and articulations of structural poverty and everyday subjectivity, the circumstances of state economic underdevelopment, and of the ethical notions that are produced in response to impoverishment. Jovan’s forthcoming book, *Scammer’s Yard: The Crime of Black Repair in Jamaica*, explores the overlapping wakes of colonial independence and structural adjustment and how the postcolonial condition of poverty produced therein is responded to through crime.



michael ralph

The Actuarial Argument

Michael Ralph teaches in the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis and the School of Medicine at New York University. He is the recipient of fellowships from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Woodrow Wilson Foundation, Social Science Research Council, National Science Foundation, Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, as well as the Charles Warren Center for Studies in US History and a former recipient of the W.E.B. Dubois Fellowship at Harvard University. Michael’s 2015 book *Forensics of Capital* demonstrates that the social profile of an individual or country is a credit profile as well as a forensic profile. Michael’s recent picture book, *Fishing*, demonstrates that ingenuity cannot be incarcerated. It is available on Amazon.com and in stores.

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All 2019/20 **Research to Impact** events will be dedicated to a **year-long commemoration** of the 400-year anniversary of the first African slaves forcibly brought to the English colonies in North America, and the enduring impacts of that history today.