University of Missouri-St. Louis
College of Arts & Sciences Visiting Scholars Program and Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice present

Sex Work and Violence in Sri Lanka:
The Politics and Practice of International Scholarship for Social Change

Tuesday, April 12th
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
SSB Building, Room 132
Refreshments will be served

From 2012 to 2014, Dr. Miller was part of a multi-country research team commissioned by the Asia-Pacific offices of the UNDP, UNFPA and UNAIDS to investigate the nature and contexts of violence against sex workers in the region. As Co-Principal Investigator in Sri Lanka (with Nilu Abeyaratne), she trained and worked with a diverse team of peer interviewers tasked with documenting variations in exposure to violence among female, male, and transgender sex workers across venues. In this presentation, Dr. Miller will provide an overview of the findings, and discuss the political and ethical challenges associated with conducting research explicitly designed to impact policy and bring about social change in the fraught context of virulent debates about sex work, sex trafficking, and human rights.

Dr. Jody Miller
Jody Miller is Professor in the School of Criminal Justice at Rutgers University and Co-Director of the Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network. Her research utilizes qualitative methods to investigate how inequalities of gender, race, sexuality and place shape participation in crime and risks for victimization, with concentrations in the United States and South Asia. Her books include Getting Played: African American Girls, Urban Inequality, and Gendered Violence and One of the Guys: Girls, Gangs, and Gender. She has won numerous awards for her research and mentoring, and is a Fellow of the American Society of Criminology.