



*Incarcerated stories: Indigenous women and violence  
in the settler capitalist state*

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This presentation will share recent research that draws on the oral histories of Indigenous women migrants from Central America and Mexico taken while they were based (mostly) in immigration detention centers of Central Texas. The research aimed to explore the structural nature of the violence to which these women have been subjected, seemingly at every step of their journeys. This exploration moves with the women migrants through space, considering how ideologies of gender, race, class and nationality function in conjunction with neoliberal market logics in the violence they experience at home, on their journey, and in the United States, through policing, detention and human trafficking. Through the women's experiences, conclusions are drawn about the state of the states of Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico and the United States, which are characterized as neoliberal "multicriminalism" in relation to the settler structures of Indigenous dispossession and elimination. The presentation will argue that Indigenous women's vulnerability to violence is not a condition of the women themselves, but rather a structural condition created through the settler colonial process that, while functioning differently across space and time, nevertheless consistently deploys raced and gendered ideologies to manage the on-going business of settler occupation and capitalist exploitation.