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# Open lunch seminar in Medical Humanities with Birgitta Essén: Global Reproductive Health, Culture and Politics – Challenges in transdisciplinary research

Date: September 29, 12.15 – 13

Place: IMCH (Dept. of Women's and Children's Health), Drottninggatan 4,  
våning 4, Stora föreläsningssalen

Organizer: Forum for medical humanities, Uppsala University

*Bring your own lunch!*

Reproductive health is about how to best treat and prevent illness related to reproduction, childlessness, abortion, family planning, pregnancy and motherhood. However, due to its influx of fundamental social values of humanity— in a globalized society— it has become one of the most politicalized topic within medicine and has many claims-makers. The very nature of academic scholarship is the critical investigation and the critical dialogue. The greatest threat to scholarship is therefore when such dialogues are closed down, censored, or compromised. Thus, during the seminar, I will give some examples of how I have managed to navigate as a researcher and gynaecologist in the field of Global 'SRHR' (sexual reproductive health and rights). I will also invite you to discuss general differences between research at the Faculty of Medicine compare to the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities.



Birgitta Essén is Professor in International Maternal and Reproductive Health at the Department of Women's and Children's Health/IMCH. She is a Senior Consultant in Obstetric and Gynaecology at the University Hospital of Uppsala where she is running a clinic especially for immigrant women. Since the last 20 years she has had a research collaboration with a medical anthropologist where they have translate theoretical knowledge of anthropology—as social & cultural aspects of reproductive phenomena—and then made it applicable in health promotions or in maternity care.

**All are Welcome!**

Forum for medical humanities is an initiative at Uppsala University to promote collaboration between the humanities, the social and the medical sciences.

Contact: [Anna.Tunlid@idehist.uu.se](mailto:Anna.Tunlid@idehist.uu.se), [Forum för medicinsk humaniora och samhällsvetenskap](http://Forum.för.medicinsk.humaniora.och.samhällsvetenskap)