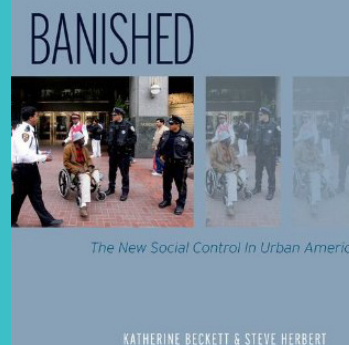




## Banished: The New Social Control in Urban America

**Dr. Katherine Beckett**  
*University of Washington*



Join the Justice Studies Faculty and Students  
for a provoking discussion about this book.

**Thursday, May 10, 2012**  
**4:00pm - 6:00pm**  
**Engineering Room 189**

### About the Book

With urban poverty rising and affordable housing disappearing, the homeless and other “disorderly” people continue to occupy public space in many American cities. Concerned about the alleged ill effects their presence inflicts on property values and public safety, many cities have wholeheartedly embraced “zero-tolerance” or “broken window” policing efforts to clear the streets of unwanted people. Through an almost completely unnoticed set of practices, these people are banned from occupying certain spaces. Once zoned out, they are subject to arrest if they return – effectively banished from public places. *Banished* is the first exploration of these new tactics that dramatically enhance the power of the police to monitor and arrest thousands of city dwellers. Drawing upon an extensive body of data, the authors chart the rise of banishment in Seattle, a city on the leading edge of this emerging trend, to establish how it works and explore its ramifications. They demonstrate that, although the practice allows police and public officials to appear responsive to concerns about urban disorder, it is a highly questionable policy: it is expensive, does not reduce crime, and

does not address the underlying conditions that generate urban poverty. Moreover, interviews with the banished themselves reveal that exclusion makes their lives and their path to self-sufficiency immeasurably more difficult.

### About the Author

Katherine Beckett is Professor in the Department of Sociology and the Law, Societies, Justice program at the University of Washington. Her research and teaching focus on the politics of crime, punishment and social control. She is the author of *Making Crime Pay: Law and Order in Contemporary American Politics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997), and *The Politics of Injustice: Crime and Punishment in America* (London: Sage, 2000).

### Discussion Panelists

- **Ericka Adams, Ph.D.**  
*San José State University*
- **Anthony W. Batts, Ph.D.**  
*Harvard Kennedy School of Government*
- **Aurora Lopez, MPH**  
*Stop the Injunctions Coalition*

[www.sjsu.edu/justicestudies](http://www.sjsu.edu/justicestudies)