The promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, encompassed in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, has one of its targets 'the reducing of all forms of violence, ending violence and promoting the rule of law and justice for all'. Intrinsic to reducing and ultimately eliminating violence is the prevention of violence, which requires attentive exploration of the structural inequalities at the root of this development challenge. In some jurisdictions, understandings of crime victimization and perpetration, the criminalization of violence, as well as designing strategies for violence prevention are still impacted by traditional, fixed codes of femininity and masculinity. This reinforces stereotyped understandings of who is the victim and who is the perpetrator. Viable solutions for violence prevention thus require a clear and comprehensive understanding of how constructions of femininities and masculinities shape crime victimization and perpetration.

It is against this backdrop that Dr. Ramona Biholar, Faculty of Law and Dr. Dacia Leslie, Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES), Crime Prevention and Offender Management (CPOM) Research Cluster, The University of the West Indies (The UWI), Mona Campus, have decided to collaborate in seeking to draw greater attention to these challenges and possible solutions through a two-day multi-disciplinary seminar to be held at the Faculty of Law, The UWI, Mona Campus. The seminar convenors therefore invite interested seminar and chapter contributors to reflect on existing understandings of violence perpetration, models of victimization, and the extent to which gender norms and ideologies still impact and are reinforced by responses and strategies for criminalization and violence prevention. Ultimately, participants are invited to challenge the asymmetric models of power that are perpetuated through law, policy and enforcement practices. The seminar will result in an edited, peer-reviewed volume that reaches beyond a one-sided aetiology of violence and its prevention.
Scholars from within and outwith the Caribbean are invited to submit individual papers in the fields of socio-legal studies, criminal law, criminology, human rights law, gender studies, sociology and development studies.

We invite abstracts of individual chapters that address, but are not limited to, any of the themes proposed below:

- Gender and the criminalization of violence
- Access to justice for women and girls
- Violence and sexualities
- Gender and peace management
- Gender and states of emergency
- Gender stereotyping and violence
- Legal protection against violence against women and girls
- Femininities and violence
- Women and girls as victims of sexual violence and/or domestic violence
- Women in law enforcement
- Women perpetrators (women who kill, women dons, women traffickers, inmates, sexual abusers, harassers, batterers)
- Female gang membership
- Social reintegration of female ex-inmates
- Women recidivists
- Men desisters
- Masculinities and violence
- Men perpetrators (batterers, harassers, sexual abusers, traffickers)
- Men and boys as victims of sexual violence and/or domestic violence
- Protection of men and boys against sexual and domestic violence
- Deportation and the impact on men, women and their families
- Perpetration and prevention of human trafficking
- Gender policies and the prevention of violence
- Sentencing policy and gender-based discrimination
- Prevention of youth-based violence

Important Dates

Deadline for proposals for chapters
20th November 2019

Proposals’ acceptance notification
20th December, 2019

Deadline for full chapter drafts
30th May, 2020

Seminar date
15th July 2020

Proposals for chapters must be presented in English, in the form of an abstract of maximum 300 words, including key terms. Proposals should include the personal data of the authors: names, affiliations, addresses.

The proposals must be submitted to:
ramona.biholar@uwimona.edu.jm and dacia.leslie@uwimona.edu.jm