



CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF LAW AND SOCIETY BERKELEY LAW

CSLS SPEAKER SERIES

Monday, October 2, 2017

SUSAN BISOM-RAPP

Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Scholarship
Thomas Jefferson School of Law

“The Role of the State towards the Grey Zone of Employment: Eyes on Canada and the United States”

(co-author Professor Urwana Coiquaud, HEC Montréal)

In most countries, precarious working is on the rise and nonstandard forms of work are proliferating. What this paper calls the “grey zone” of employment is generated by transformations at and with respect to work both in standard and nonstandard forms of working. Focusing on legal and policy regulation, and on the role of the state in the creation and perception of the grey zone, this article explains the way the government acts or fails to act, and the consequences of that activity or inactivity on the standard employment relationship. Examining and juxtaposing conditions in two countries, Canada and the United States, the authors’ thesis is that the state plays a paradoxical role in the growth of nonstandard work and increasing precariousness. To assist the analysis, the authors construct a matrix for understanding the efforts or inertia on the part of the government. They conclude that there are seven ways in which to comprehend the role played by the government vis-à-vis the grey zone.

Professor Bisom-Rapp’s paper is available online at our website and in hard copy at the Center.

PLACE Selznick Seminar Room, 2240 Piedmont Avenue
TIME 12:45 – 2:00pm
INFO <https://www.law.berkeley.edu/centers/center-for-the-study-of-law-society/>
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