



Fighting Drink, Drugs, and Venereal Diseases

Global Anti-Vice Activism, ca. 1870-1940

International Conference, Monte Verità, Ascona, April 1-4, 2012

<http://www.gmw.ethz.ch/news/antivice>

From mid-19th century onwards a growing number of non-governmental organizations, intellectuals and policy-makers became concerned with 'vices' that appeared to pose a vital threat to national populations and even humanity at large, such as alcoholism, drug trade/abuse, prostitution and deviant sexual behaviors. The conference explores, firstly, how 'vices' were framed in the context of international bio-political discourses. Secondly, we seek to understand why the fight against intoxicating substances and venereal diseases became addressed as global issues. Finally, the conference addresses the question of regulation. Anti-vice activism was crucial in setting the agenda for both governmental interference and the making of international regulatory regimes.

The Keynote Speakers and Discussants include **Emmanuel Akyeampong** (Harvard University), **David Courtwright** (University of North Florida), **Philippa Levine** (University of Texas, Austin), **Philipp Sarasin** (University Zurich), **Hasso Spode** (LU Hannover), **Mariana Valverde** (University of Toronto), **Helmut Zander** (HU Berlin).

Visitors please register per email with Jana Tschurenév (jana.tschurenév@gmw.gess.ethz.ch), or Judith Grosse (judith.grosse@gmw.gess.ethz.ch).