



**Birzeit University**  
**Institute of Women's Studies & the Institute of Law 2012 Conference**

*Getting Right Women's Rights:  
Re-thinking Gender and Law in Colonial Palestine*

*26 March 2012, Birzeit University*

8:30 - 9:30

Registration & Coffee

9:30-9:45

Welcoming Session

9:45-11:30

الجلسة الأولى

**Panel 1: Law, Gender and Violence; Palestinian Women, Israeli Law**  
Chair: Reem Botmeh, Birzeit University

**Confined and Condemned: A Socio-legal Analysis of the Israeli Military Court System on  
Palestinian Society in the West Bank and Gaza**  
Lisa Hajjar, University of California – Santa Barbara

**Casting Out: "Citizenship," Legal Surveillance and the Eviction of Palestinians**  
Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian, Mada al-Karmal, Haifa

**Israeli Legislation on Family Unification**  
Hassan Jabareen (Adalah)

**Commentary: Linda Tabar (Birzeit university)**

**Discussion**

**11:30-11:45**

**Break**

**11:45-12:45**

**Keynote Speech**

**Plenary Session: Re-thinking Gender Rights:  
The Law, Liberal Subjects and Colonial Violence**  
Chair: Islah Jad (Birzeit University)

**Secularism, Sexuality and Family Law:  
The Making of Sectarian Conflict?**  
Saba Mahmood (University of California - Berkeley)

**Discussion**

**12:45-2:30**

**Second Session**

**Panel 2: Government, Gender and the Personal:  
Women's Rights and the Palestinian Authority**  
Chair -Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian (Mada al-Karmal, Haifa)

**The Palestinian Authority and Law: the Post-Oslo Project of Instituting a Legal System**  
Reem Botmeh (Birzeit University)

**Reflections on Gender Legal Strategies Post-Oslo:  
Strategies, Achievements, and Failures**  
(Maha Abu Dayyeh Women's Center for Legal Aid and Counseling, Jerusalem)

**Gender and Christian Family Law**  
Ghassan Faramand (Birzeit University)

**Gender and the Palestinian Labor Law**  
Bouthaina Salem (Palestinian Ministry of Labor)

**Commentary - Jamil Salem, Institute of Law, Birzeit University**

**Discussion**

**2:30-3:15**

**Lunch**

**3:15-4:15**

**Closing Plenary**

**Reflections on Conference Proceedings**

**Wrapping up Rights – Where Do We Go From Here?**

Chair –Lisa Hajjar

**Discussion**

6:00-7:00

***Roundtable***

***Women's Rights and the Law  
Lessons from the Arab Spring – The Cases of Egypt and Tunis***

**Egyptian Women's Rights, the Revolution  
and the Problematic Legacy of State Feminism**  
Hala Kamal (Women and Memory Forum, Cairo) via satellite

**Strategizing Through the Context of Possibility:  
The Process of Actively Negotiating Women's Rights in the Tunisian Revolution**  
Ms. Nabila Hamza (Foundation for the Future, Amman)

**Discussion**