



2014-2015  
**SOCIOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES**

*presents*

**PATRICIA P. RIEKER**

BOSTON UNIVERSITY AND HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

**THE HEALTH GENDER GAP: A CRITICAL DISCUSSION  
OF EVIDENCE, EXPLANATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS**

Dr. Rieker's cross-disciplinary research has focused on determinants of health care outcomes and how women and men differ markedly in patterns of illness and longevity in the US and cross nationally. Her early work into the psychosexual effects of physical and sexual abuse and genitourinary cancers contributed significantly to understanding the differential gendered outcomes of traumatic experiences. Her most recent coauthored book *Gender and Health: The Effects of Constrained Choices and Social Policies* synthesizes relevant international research and discusses why biomedical and social explanations alone are insufficient for understanding these complex patterns of morbidity/mortality. In her work she raises the question of "Whose responsibility is health?" and addresses both research and policy conundrums. Dr. Rieker has published extensively in a wide array of social science and medical journals, is an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, and the co-editor of several other books, *The Gender Gap in Psychotherapy: Social Realities and Psychological Processes*, and *Mental Health: Racism and Sexism*.

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FRIDAYS - 12PM - SOC 241

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