



RFG Talk: Buddhism^{crip} – Queered Variabilities

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WED

10:00 – 11:15 AM
Zoom
Learn more: bit.ly/DSI-RFG

BEE SCHERER

The Vrije Universiteit (VU), Amsterdam

People performing diverse embodiments of sexualities, gender, and variable physical and neurological patterns, among others, often encounter specific difficulties and sometimes hostility when practicing Buddhism. In this talk, Professor Bee Scherer will look at these experiences of abjection, their grounding in social psychology, and how they relate to positions found in Buddhist philosophy and narratives. How can we negotiate oppressive readings of, for example, key Buddhist notions such as karma, No-Self, and detachment? How can we address structural marginalization and discrimination of “dis/abilities” (variabilities) and sexual and gender diversity in Socially Engaged Buddhist activism and as communities of practice?

Bee Scherer (they, them, their) has been practicing for decades in the Sakya and Kagyu traditions of Tibetan Buddhism and has been serving as a dharma teacher for more than fifteen years. Scherer now heads Buddhist Studies at the Vrije Universiteit (VU) Amsterdam and directs the national Dutch Buddhist chaplaincy training program.

Sponsored by the IHC's Disability Studies Initiative Research Focus Group, Department of Comparative Literature, and Graduate Center for Literary Research

