



The Sister Thea Bowman Lecture Series on
Social Justice in Library and Information Science

The Ethics of Epistemic Justice:

Addressing Epistemicide through Social Justice in LIS

WITH DR. BETH PATIN

Oct. 7, 2021 | 6 p.m. EDT (virtual)

The information professions need a paradigmatic shift to examine the ways we have systematically undermined knowledge systems falling outside of Western traditions and I argue for an ethical shift to address these injustices within our programs, services, and curricula. Epistemicide is the killing, silencing, annihilation, or devaluing of a knowledge system. Epistemicide happens when epistemic injustices are persistent, systematic, and collectively work as a structured oppression of particular ways of knowing. Addressing epistemicide is critical for information professionals because we task ourselves with handling knowledge from every field. There must be a reckoning before the paradigm can truly shift; if there is no acknowledgement of injustice, there is no room for justice.

To attend the lecture event, RSVP is required [here](#).
Visit our [website](#) for more information about the lecture series.



ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Beth Patin, Ph.D., is an assistant professor at Syracuse University's School of Information Studies. Beth's research agenda focuses on the equity of information in two research streams: crisis informatics and cultural competence. She is the co-founder of the Library Information Investigative Team research group and a recipient of the Meredith Teaching Award for Early Excellence. Currently, she is working on projects about epistemicide (defined as the silencing, killing, or devaluing of knowledge systems), libraries during disaster and crisis, and digital humanities and the Civil Rights Movement. In 2007, Beth was named an American Library Association Emerging Leader. Currently, she is a member of the Advisory Board on the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries.