



Western

Centre for Research on
Migration and Ethnic Relations

**Winter Colloquium
Series 2014**



The Role of the Media in the Dehumanization of Immigrants and Refugees

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Immigration policies and the treatment of immigrants and refugees are contentious issues involving uncertainty and unease. The media may take advantage of this uncertainty to create a crisis mentality in which immigrants and refugees are portrayed as “enemies at the gate” who are attempting to invade Western nations and take advantage of their generosity. Although it has been suggested that such depictions promote the dehumanization of immigrants and refugees, there has been little direct evidence for this claim. In this presentation I will describe our program of research addressing this gap by using experimental methods to examine the causal effects of common media portrayals of immigrants and refugees on dehumanization and its consequences.

Thursday, January 16

4:00 pm, SSC 5220

Refreshments at 3:30pm in SSC 5230

All Welcome!

For more information email merassis@uwo.ca