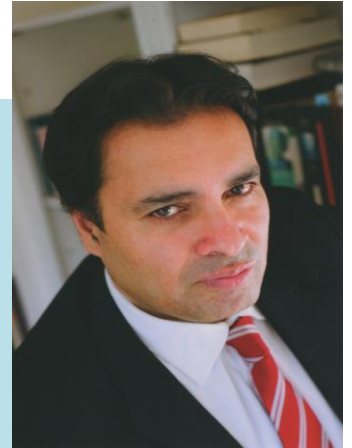




UNIVERSITY OF  
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Institute of Criminology



Hurting the Vulnerable; Harming Ourselves:  
Modes and mechanisms of structural and  
hidden violences against women and children  
from a culturo-evolutionary co-perspective

**Dexter Dias QC**

Barrister

Institute of Criminology Public Seminar Series

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017, 5.30pm

Seminar Room B3, Institute of Criminology,  
Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA

*A drinks reception in the basement foyer will follow this seminar for attendees*

**Questions:** Why do we hurt the most vulnerable? When we do so, how do we harm ourselves? What are the commonalities between modes of violence directed at the most vulnerable - state-authorised violence against children in custodial institutions; familial and kinship violence against girls subjected to Female Genital Mutilation? If there are regularly recurring explicators, how deeply rooted are they? Might such causes be - shockingly, counterintuitively, unpalatably - in some sense 'adaptive', evolutionary in origin? What would that mean; what would it look like?

How would that interact with culture - does it? Above all, how do we fight such violences?

**Answers:** Based on (1) the speaker's research at Harvard and Cambridge; (2) 25 years working in human rights and criminal justice as a barrister and part-time judge; and (3) fleshed out by disputation and discussion.

Dexter Dias QC is a human rights barrister, part-time judge of the Crown Court and visiting researcher at Harvard and Cambridge. He chaired and co-authored the influential Bar Human Rights report to the Parliamentary Inquiry into FGM and has briefed and written reports for the UN around gender-based violence.

**All welcome!** This seminar is free, and is open to all interested in attending, with no ticket required.

If you wish to be added to the seminar mailing list, please contact: Joanne Garner, on: [jf225@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jf225@cam.ac.uk)

For full listing of IoC Seminars: <http://www.crim.cam.ac.uk/> For directions: <http://map.cam.ac.uk/>