

# QUEER AND TRANS RESISTANCE, ABOLITION, AND MUTUAL AID



Monica Trinidad, *Abolition Now*, micropen and paper, 2015

**Dean Spade**

Seattle University School of Law

**4:00pm • Wednesday  
October 30, 2019**

**Knight Auditorium  
Spurlock Museum**

600 South Gregory, Urbana  
University of Illinois  
at Urbana-Champaign

**Cosponsored by:**

Center for Advanced Study

Department of Asian American Studies

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**THIS EVENT IS FREE AND  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

"Mutual aid" is a term used for projects where people take responsibility for caring for one another and changing political conditions, not just through symbolic acts or putting pressure on their representatives in government, but by actually building new social relations that are more survivable. Famous examples of mutual aid projects include the Black Panther Party's Free Breakfast Program, the Young Lords Party's hijacking of New York City's tuberculosis testing mobile unit to bring TB testing to high-risk, medically neglected neighborhoods, and feminist organizing to provide underground abortions in the 1970s.

In this presentation, Dean Spade will examine how mutual aid might counter the demobilizing frameworks for understanding social change and expressing dissent that dominate the popular imagination, and examine the benefits as well as challenges faced by contemporary organizations mobilizing through mutual aid.

This talk is part of the **CAS 2019-20 Initiative *Abolition***, which examines the interconnected power dynamics across prisons, police, immigration, gendered and sexual violence, environmental justice, disability justice, and more, in order to propose an abolitionist democratic present and future.

CAS Resident Associates Toby Beauchamp (Gender and Women's Studies) and Naomi Paik (Asian American Studies) oversee this initiative which includes a year-long public events series and a graduate seminar (CAS 587) in Spring 2020 among other activities.