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Newsletter des Collegium Carolinum 9/2011

(14.5.2011)

Vortragsankündigung

Das [Collegium Carolinum](#) lädt herzlich zu einer Vortragsveranstaltung ein:

Donnerstag, 26. Mai 2011, 18 Uhr c.t.

Seminarraum des Collegium Carolinum (Hochstr. 8, 2. OG, München)

Prof. Nancy Wingfield, Ph.D.

(Northern Illinois University, USA)

Mädchenhandel: The Worldwide Trade in 'Girls' from the Bohemian Lands before the First World War

Few forms of socially deviant behavior received so much attention in the sexually saturated Austrian fin de siècle as *Mädchenhandel*. Discourse from the turn of the century embodied concerns about the need for social control in increasingly anonymous, modernizing, urbanizing, and capitalist society. Expanding and improving communication and transportation networks, which both facilitated large-scale immigration and permitted women to travel alone as never before, as well as the anonymity of the growing metropolises in Habsburg Central Europe facilitated the practice. Indeed, commercial sex was a flourishing enterprise in the flourishing urban centers of the nineteenth-century Habsburg monarchy, where prostitution was tolerated and thus regulated. This paper discusses trafficking in the Bohemian Lands with attention to issues of female agency, police response to the threat, and slippage between the terms "white slaver" and "panderer" in the discourse on trafficking.

Nancy Wingfield is Professor of History at Northern Illinois University. Her most recent books are *Flag Wars and Stone Saints: How the Bohemian Lands Became Czech* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2007); *Return to Diversity: A Political History of East Central Europe Since World War II*, 4th ed., co-authored with Joseph Rothschild (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007); and *Gender and World War in Twentieth-Century Eastern Europe*, co-editor with Maria Bucur (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006). Her research and writing have been supported by grants from International Research and Exchanges (IREX), the Department of Education, and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. She has previously published several articles based on the research she is doing for a book-length manuscript, *'A Necessary Evil': Prostitution in Late Imperial Austria*.

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