

Biographical Note

Janice Graham is a medical anthropologist (PhD Université de Montréal 1997) who holds a Canada Research Chair in Bioethics. Dr. Graham's current research addresses a cultural unpacking of the concepts of safety and efficacy in regulatory practices and policies. Interested in the anthropology of science, technology and medicine, her research explores regulatory practices, aging, diagnostic imaginaries, and databases as cultural texts. Graham's work on Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diagnostics during the 90s led to an interest in the moral basis of market capitalism that regards disease as an opportunity for profit. With the award of a \$500,000 operating grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, she and her team of graduate students are mapping the regulatory territory between industry sponsorship, scientific evidence and policy decisions at the Biologics and Genetic Therapies Directorate of Health Canada and other international regulatory sites. At a juncture between anthropology, science studies, technology assessment and bioethics, this work will analyze the scientific and cultural encounters of the various stakeholders responsible for the safety, efficacy and quality of new and emerging therapies.

Graham held an endowed Research Chair in Medical Anthropology at the University of British Columbia (1998-2002) and a CIHR New Investigator award (1999-2002). She did postdoctoral training in geriatric medicine and neuroepidemiology, funded by the Alzheimer Society of Canada. Previous research includes work among Canadian seniors, sub arctic Cree hunters and trappers, inner city homeless, people with HIV, and survivors of sexual assault and abuse.

In 2005, Dr. Graham launched her new \$400,000 Qualitative Research Commons and Studio (QuRCS). Funded by the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Nova Scotia Research and Innovation Trust, the QuRCS is a state-of-the-art multi-media ethnographic research facility that will support collaborations between international networks of researchers working on socio-cultural and bioethical issues.

Janice Graham is a member of the Society for Applied Anthropology, and the American Anthropological Association, and she is also a co-founder of the Society for Medical Anthropology Pharmaceutical Studies Interest Group and currently a member of the executive of the Canadian Anthropology Society.

http://bioethics.medicine.dal.ca/WhoWeAre/Graham_PP.htm