



Chester Ronning Centre
for the Study of Religion and Public Life

The Manifestations of Xeno-racism After Norway



Andy Knight *A Ronning Centre Seminar*

Xenoracism is associated with a troubling increase in a virulent form of prejudice, discrimination, exclusion and marginalization that targets individuals and groups based, not so much on somatic or phenotypical features such as skin colour but rather on the perception of foreignness. Ambakavaner Sivanandan, Director of the Institute of Race Relations (IRR) in the UK, first coined the term “xenoracism” in reference initially to a post-war form of discrimination directed at “the displaced, the dispossessed and the uprooted, who are beating at western European doors, the Europe that helped to displace them in the first place. Xenoracism bears all the hallmarks of the old racism while focusing on the discrimination, exclusion and marginalization of target migrants, refugees, guest-workers, sojourners, asylum-seekers, and foreign students, regardless of their skin colour. Indeed, some individuals who are second generation in a host country still find themselves targets of xenoracism. Why? Because it is connected to discrimination that targets an individual simply because of a perceived cultural, identity, or religious difference (e.g. a woman wearing a niqāb or burqa). The focus of this talk will be on the various manifestations of xenoracism, utilizing the recent example demonstrated so violently in Norway.

Tuesday, 11 October 2011, 7:00 p.m.
2-004 (Roger Epp Conference Room)
Augustana Campus, Camrose

Dr. W. Andy Knight is Chair of the Department of Political Science and Professor of International Relations at the University of Alberta. He serves as Advisory Board Member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on the Welfare of Children. Professor Knight has written and edited several books, book chapters and journal articles on various aspects of multilateralism, global governance and peace, and United Nations reform. His most recent books are: *Global Politics* (with Tom Keating), published by Oxford University Press 2010; *The Ashgate Research Companion to Political Leadership* (with Joseph Masciulli & Mikhail A. Molchanov), published by Ashgate 2009. In April 2010, Dr. Knight was awarded a national honour – the Harry Jerome Trailblazer Award, for his global scholarly and community contributions. And, just recently he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

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