



Oddělení Gender & sociologie
Sociologického ústavu Akademie věd ČR, v.v.i.

Vás zve na přednášku

Prof. Nancy Jurik a Prof. Gray Gavender:

**Work-Life Balance and the Fictional Policewoman:
Jane Tennison in the British TV Series *Prime Suspect*.**

Seriál Hlavní podzřelý s Helen Mirren v hlavní roli vysílala ČT.

Přednáška se bude konat ve čtvrtek **3. června od 16 hodin**
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Abstract: Many experts are concluding that balancing personal and professional responsibilities is a losing battle. Evidence also suggests that work-life conflicts are distinctly gendered with women more often experiencing pressure in this realm. In this presentation, we examine the life of a fictional policewoman, Detective Chief Superintendant (DCS), Jane Tennison, who is the protagonist in the highly acclaimed seven-film British television series *Prime Suspect*. A popular trope for portraying successful women professionals in the media is the woman who has no life but her career. Her success comes at the expense of romantic and maternal fulfillment. This media construction has been criticized by feminist media scholars because it suggests that women cannot successfully balance a successful career with a fulfilling personal life. We examined the seven *Prime Suspect* films in order to assess the portrait of work-life balance over the course of the film series. We conclude from these images that indeed DCS Jane Tennison has serious difficulties balancing work and family life and her situation actually deteriorates over the course of the series. However, we argue that given the reality of contemporary work demands in policing and other professional and even nonprofessional occupations, the message of Jane Tennison is more reflective of the real world than we would like to think.

Nancy Jurik is a Professor of Justice & Social Inquiry at Arizona State University. She teaches courses on "Women and Work" and "Economic Justice." Her publications focus on gender, work organizations, innovation, and entrepreneurship. She has published books, including *Doing Justice, Doing Gender: Women in Legal and Criminal Justice Occupations* (Sage, 2007), and *Bootstrap Dreams: U.S. Microenterprise Development in an Era of Welfare Reform* (Cornell University Press, 2005), as well as articles on gender, work, and work organization issues.

Gray Cavender is a Professor of Justice & Social Inquiry at Arizona State University. He teaches courses on Media, Law & Society, and Punishment. His primary research interest is in the media, and includes topics ranging from reality television to how the media depict crime. His most recent book is *Corporate Crime Under Attack: The Fight to Criminalize Business Violence* (LexisNexis, 2006). He is writing a book with Nancy Jurik on the *Prime Suspect* series.

Přednáška a následná diskuse bude v angličtině.
