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DURHAM, N.H. -- The Saul O Sidore Memorial Lecture Series at the University of New Hampshire continues Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2006, when philosopher Uma Narayan discusses violence against women from a global perspective. This year’s series focuses on violence against women, beginning from a discussion of the theoretical, legal and social impact of the work of Andrea Dworkin.

All lectures are Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in the Memorial Union Building’s Theatre II. Lectures, free and open to the public, will be followed by facilitated dialogues run by and for men, women, and all people.

Narayan’s lecture, The Politics of Rescue and the Politics of Forgetting: Expanding Feminist Notions on Imperialism and Violence, will challenge assumptions by Americans that women everywhere are the same and that violence against women in the Third World is a cultural problem. Narayan is a professor of philosophy at Vassar College. She works in the area of feminist social and political philosophy, with a focus on issues affecting Third World women, including the connections between culture and violence. Her books include Dislocating Cultures: Identities, Traditions and Third World Feminism, and Decentering the Center: Philosophy for a Multicultural, Postcolonial and Feminist World (co-edited with Sandra Harding).

Dworkin, who died just over a year ago, was one of the first to name the issue of violence against women in the 1970s and to make clear it was not a personal, individual matter, but a societal, systemic issue that needed to be discussed publicly. Thirty years later, it is still an issue in need of discussion.

“Andrea Dworkin’s central contribution was to challenge America on the issue of violence against women,” said Marla Brettschneider, associate professor of political science and women's studies at UNH and coordinator of the series. “She bequeathed a tremendous legacy to the movement – her life and her writing – but there are still many issues that she wasn’t able to get to and that’s what we’ll explore over this next year. We’ll explore her legacy by addressing its power and limitations.”

For a complete list of the Sidore lectures or to learn about related programs and courses, visit http://www.unh.edu/humanities-center/sidore/sidore.htm.