



– Institute's Colloquium –

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“Heal through movement, worship and the Word of God” – On the notion of healing in contemporary evangelical fitness programs

This paper introduces North American evangelical fitness and diet programs. These have emerged since the late 1950s and provide their followers with biblically based regimens of shaping their bodies which are considered as ‘temples of the Holy Spirit.’ The intention to lose weight is often conflated with notions of health and healing because overweight tends to be associated with illness. Healing the body, however, is not a merely physical endeavor, but embedded in a system of relationships wherein the body itself becomes both index and instrument of transformation. The presentation will give a few examples of these programs and then sketch the underlying ‘theologies of the body.’

**on Wednesday, 3rd of December 2014
4-6 p.m.
Institute of Ethnology
Stadtstraße 21, Raum STU 105 (2.10)**

Everybody is welcome!