



“The Spiral of Immigration and Nationalism”

Justin Gest

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Unitobler, Lerchenweg 36, Room F013

"We asked for workers," lamented Swiss writer Max Frisch in 1972. "We got people instead." In a globalized world where money, goods, and information fluidly cross borders, it is the humanity of immigrants that is at the core of the controversies they inspire. For some, their humanity qualifies them for equal standards of living and treatment. For others, equality threatens status and wealth that took generations of sacrifice to accumulate. In these ways, immigration is the most polemical and intimately experienced expression of globalization—felt at home, in the workplace, in communities, and through the media. In this talk, Justin Gest will discuss his books on immigration policy and white nationalist backlash in the United States and Europe to better understand Trump, Brexit, and the future of global immigration.

Justin Gest is an Assistant Professor of Public Policy at George Mason University's Schar School of Policy and Government. He studies immigration and the politics of demographic change. He is the author of four books: *Apart: Alienated and Engaged Muslims in the West* (Oxford University Press/Hurst 2010); *The New Minority: White Working Class Politics in an Age of Immigration and Inequality* (Oxford University Press 2016); *The White Working Class: What Everyone Needs to Know* (Oxford University Press 2018); and *Crossroads: Comparative Immigration Regimes in a World of Demographic Change* (Cambridge University Press 2018). He has also provided reporting or commentary for BBC, CNN, The Guardian, Los Angeles Times, NPR, The New York Times, Politico, Reuters, Vox, and The Washington Post. Professor Gest received the 2014 Joseph R. Levenson Memorial Teaching Prize, Harvard University's highest award for faculty teaching.