ZeMKI-Forschungskolloquium

ZeMKI Research Seminar

Linzer Str. 4, Room 60.070, 28359 Bremen, DE

10.05.2023, 16.15 – 17.45 (CET)

Dr. Arianda Matamoros Fernandez
(Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia)

Humour as an online safety issue

Abstract:

In this presentation I will make a case for addressing humour as an online safety issue so that social media platforms can include it in their risk assessments and harm mitigation strategies. I take the 'online safety' regulation debate, especially as it is taking place in the UK and the European Union, as an opportunity to reconsider how and when humour targeted at historically marginalised groups can cause harm. Drawing on sociolegal literature, I argue that in their online safety efforts, platforms should address lawful humour targeted at historically marginalised groups because it can cause individual harm via its cumulative effects and contribute to broader social harms. I will also demonstrate how principles and concepts from critical humour studies and Feminist Standpoint Theory can help platforms assess the differential impacts of humour.

Bio:

Ariadna Matamoros-Fernández is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Media at the Queensland University of Technology, Chief Investigator at the Digital Media Research Centre and Associate Investigator at the ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making and Society. Her research focuses on the interplay between user practices and platform design and governance in (re)producing structural inequality. She is co-author of a forthcoming book on WhatsApp (Polity, with Amelia Johns and Emma Baulch).