

W. BRENT BURGIN LUNCH AND LEARN LECTURE SERIES

“The Dark Side of Women’s History: How Female Serial Killers Defy the Narrative”

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Deborah Rowell, USC Lancaster Instructor of Criminal Justice, Ph.D. Candidate

Women account for one in six serial killers in the United States, yet their presence in history is often minimized or misunderstood. While Aileen Wuornos is frequently cited as the first female serial killer, she stands near the end of a lineage that stretches all the way back to Agrippina the Younger of ancient Rome — a lineage scholars argue women may be uniquely equipped to conceal. Because society struggles to imagine men to be capable of such evil, let alone women, female serial killers have operated in ways that defy expectations and evade detection for centuries.

