What difference does it make to a theory of society to take violence more seriously? What are the implications of treating all violence, inter-personal violence as well as war between states, as significant for theory? I argue for violence as a fourth institutional domain alongside economy, polity and civil society. Violence is an important part of systems of gender inequality. How should the variation in the deployment and regulation of violence in society be theorised in relation to the varieties that exist in forms of gender regimes? The implications of different definitions in relation to physicality need clarification: identifying the specificity of violence as a form of physical power rather than extending the concept into wider forms of coercion and inequality aids the greater visibility of gender inequalities. The implications of the balance between the criminal justice and welfare functions of the state to address violence vary between varieties of gender regime: this balance is central in contestations within contemporary feminist politics. Inter-personal violence is at the heart of contemporary public debate. Clarifying the theoretical issues at stake is important for debates on the priorities of contemporary politics and policy. It matters for understanding the dynamics of gender regimes and gender politics.

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Zoom:
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Meeting-ID: 630 1773 4139; Passwort: 921319