Women's Studies invites you for Film, Pizza, and Conversation: An Event for Majors, Minors, and their friends.

In celebration of International Women’s Day, Please join us for a special screening of the 2009 documentary film

*Poto Mitan: Haitian Women, Pillars of the Global Economy*

[U.S., dir. by Renée Bergan & Mark Schuller, 50min.]

Followed by an informal conversation with Kristin Peterson, Asst. Professor, Anthropology, UCI

Monday, March 8, 2010
5:00-7:00 PM
3341 Humanities Gateway

**FILM**

Told through compelling lives of five courageous Haitian women workers, Poto Mitan gives the global economy a human face. Each woman’s personal story explains neoliberal globalization, how it is gendered, and how it impacts Haiti: inhumane working/living conditions, violence, poverty, lack of education, and poor health care. While Poto Mitan offers in-depth understanding of Haiti, its focus on women’s subjugation, worker exploitation, poverty, and resistance demonstrates these are global struggles. Finally, through their collective activism, these women demonstrate that despite monumental obstacles in a poor country like Haiti, collective action makes change possible.

**DISCUSSION**

The film has taken on new significance in the wake of the recent earthquakes in Haiti. How can Haitian women’s experience and analysis of globalization inform our understanding of the relationship of natural disaster and what is sometimes called “disaster capitalism”? How do women's studies majors who seek work in the field of development and women’s nongovernmental organizations juggle the impact of U.S. foreign aid on local economies? How do women work together across national borders and across differences of race and class? Join us for an informal conversation about these and other questions. Share ideas and get to know other Women's Studies students and faculty.

For event information please contact: Jeanne Scheper, Assistant Professor of Women’s Studies at jscheper@uci.edu or visit [http://www.potomitan.net/](http://www.potomitan.net/)