



*Centre for Medical Science and Technology Studies,
University of Copenhagen announces the following seminar:*

Learning to Hope in the Anthropocene: From Health Movements to the Climate Emergency

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University of York

When contemplating the wicked futures of the twenty-first century, many social scientists express varying degrees of pessimism about the prospect of societies adapting to global environmental change. As John [Urry \(2010: 191\)](#) observes: ‘the twentieth century has left a bleak legacy for the new century, with a very limited range of possible future scenarios’. However, during the past two decades at least, it is also the case that social scientists have emphasized the hopefulness invested in biotechnology and biomedical advances to bring cures for human disease and argued that biology is no longer fate but an open future to be worked upon by ‘biological citizens’ ([Rose and Novas, 2005](#)). Authors such as Naomi Klein (2014) and Allysa Battistoni (2013) have both drawn on the achievements of past social movements to seek hope that the worse anticipated futures are not realized, that activists and citizens can come together to resist and make a better world.

In this talk, I want to explore what we can learn from the study of health movements in relation to today’s concerns about planetary futures. Do the struggles of the HIV/Aids movement, the women’s health movement or rare genetic disease groups cast light on the political possibilities of change in the face of the current climate emergency?

April 2, 2020, at 10:00-11:30, in room 5.0.22 at CSS, Øster Farimagsgade 5A, building 5

Everybody is welcome!