WHAT’S IN A NAME? HISTORIES OF MARY MALLON AND TYPHOID MARY

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Reception following

A childhood doggerel claims that "sticks and stones may break my bones, but names will never hurt me." This talk suggests, rather, that names can hurt, and they also can change the course of a life, of history, of how historians tell history, and, most specifically, of how stigmatizing names can affect efforts to protect the public's health. A 2004 NOVA film, The Most Dangerous Woman in the World, based on Professor Leavitt’s recent book, Typhoid Mary: Captive to the Public’s Health, has been nominated for an Emmy in the historical documentary category.

Open to the entire University and the public

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