Description: My presentation will focus on the emergence of an international Dalit rights movement (for caste groups formerly considered Untouchable) and the role of the Dalit diaspora in the United States in initiating this mobilization. The movement focuses on caste discrimination in India as well as in the diaspora and uses analogies to race, specifically the situation of African Americans. I examine how this racial framing is deployed in a variety of ways, and what this framing enables, but also obscures and impedes.

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