



# BIOPOLITICS OF OTHERNESS

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*Lecture 10, Development Anthropology  
MA in Diplomacy and International Cooperation 2020-2021*





# SUFFERING

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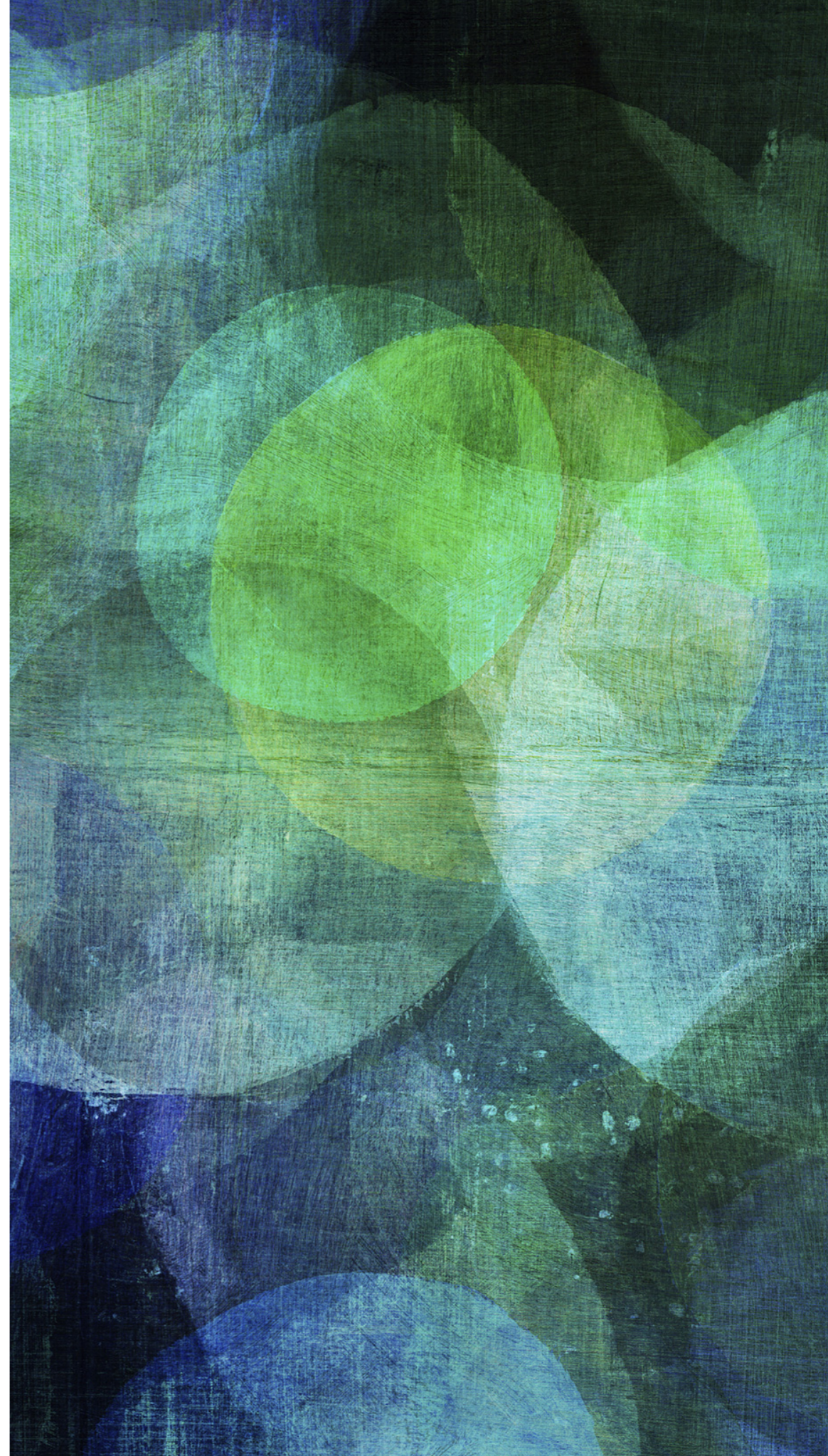
*physical pain  
mental health  
social inequalities  
poverty  
racism  
discriminations*

...



# HOW MANY WAYS TO CONCEIVE SUFFERING?

.....  
*Disease, illness, sickness...*







# DIDIER FASSIN

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- Doctor and anthropologist
- intersections between the conditions of the body and social structures
- “Humanitarian reason” and immigration
- biological - political



# BIOPOLITICS, MICHEL FOUCAULT

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- biology - politics
- mental health policies
- welfare, insurances
- eugenetics
- RACISM as a form of biopolitics

# BIOPOLITICS, DIDIER FASSIN

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- “illegal” immigration
- political asylum - humanitarian ‘reason’
- illness - biological condition of the body
- biological suffering VS political threat
- the body as a site of inscription for immigration policies
- biological truth as legitimation

# BIOPOLITICS OF OTHERNESS

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*existence = sickness*

*Is illness a cause or a consequence?*

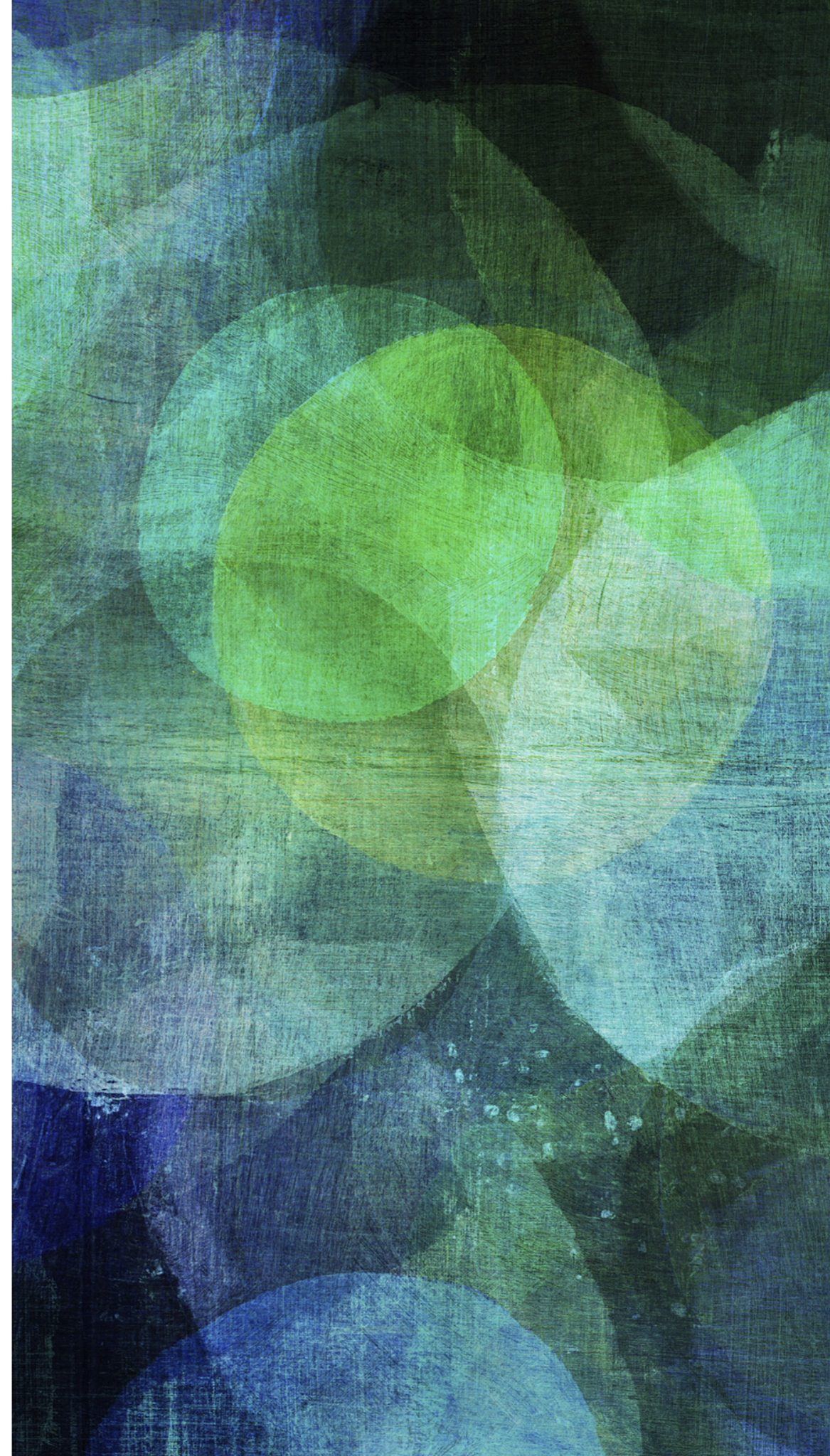
*Victims = pity and compassion*



**DO YOU AGREE WITH  
THE AUTHOR?**

**CAN YOU THINK ABOUT  
OTHER WAYS IN WHICH  
THE BODY IS DEPLOYED  
IN ORDER TO  
DISCRIMINATE?**

.....  
*DISCUSSION*





# SOURCES

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- Didier Fassin 2001. “The Biopolitics of Otherness: Undocumented Foreigners and Racial Discrimination in French Public Debate” in *Anthropology Today*, vol. 17 n°1, 3-7.
- Sara Farris 2017. *In the Name of Women’s Rights: The Rise of Femonationalism*. London, Duke University Press.