



Northeastern

Department of African American Studies

"Regarding the Pain of the Other: Photography, Famine, and the Transference of Affect"

Professor Kimberly Brown

Thursday, October 15th, 2009 3:00-4:30
320 Shillman Hall

On March 26th, 1993 Kevin Carter's photograph of an emaciated Sudanese child hunted by a vulture was published in *The New York Times*. What began as the photographic documenting of the horrors of famine ended in the symbolic realm of visual



transference. Carter's suicide, months after receiving the Pulitzer Prize for the photo, is laced with all-encompassing sacrifice and associated with the famous image. In the interim, feelings of sympathy connected to the photograph of the starving child have been shifted to Carter, who is memorialized ever after as a man unable to live with the inhumanity of humanity. "My paper engages the photographic obliteration of the starving girl in favor of Carter's sympathetic martyrdom." – Professor Kimberly Brown



Dr. Brown is an Assistant Professor of English at Northeastern. Her areas of interest include: 20th century African American and Caribbean literature, visual culture of the black Diaspora, feminist theory, and the intersection of literary and visual culture.

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