

Arab Diasporas/Comparative Diasporas Film Series

**Tuesday, November 1, 2005**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Social Science Building, Rm 1165**  
University of Michigan, Dearborn

## **La Operación**

Puerto Rico has the highest incidence of female sterilization in the world. Over one-third of all Puerto Rican women of childbearing age have been sterilized. So common is the operation that it is simply known as 'la operación.' Using newsreels and excerpts from government propaganda films, plus interviews with Puerto Rican women, doctors, birth control specialists and politicians, this film explores the controversial use of sterilization as a means of population control.

### **Post-Screening Roundtable Discussion with:**

#### **Arleen Chiclana**



- Assistant Professor of Spanish and Latino Studies
- Ph.D., Comparative Literature, University of Rochester, New York
- Specialization: Caribbean Women Writers, Peninsular Literature, Latino Studies and Hispanic Cinema
- Designed the first Diversity course in Spanish program
- Inductee, Spanish Honor Society
- Provost Fellow, University of Rochester (1995)
- Author, "Desvistiendo un santo para vestir al (O)tro"

#### **Rashmi Luthra**



- Professor of Communication
- Founding Member, Committee on South Asian Women
- Former Director, Women's Studies Program and Communications Program
- Author, "Framing Gender in Afghanistan and Iraq: Unveiling the Gaze of Empire." in *Media and Political Violence*; "Recovering Women's Voice: Communicative Empowerment of Women of the South" in *Communication Yearbook*; "The Women's Movement and the Press in India: The Construction of Female Foeticide as a Social Issue" in *Women's Studies in Communication*.

Free and open to the public. Space is limited. Please RSVP by Monday, October 31, 2005 at [caasumd@umd.umich.edu](mailto:caasumd@umd.umich.edu) or call CAAS at (313) 583-6334