

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY'S
RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION
PROGRAM PRESENTS

WENDY S. HESFORD



Professor of English at The Ohio State University
&
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University

In "Global Girlhoods," Professor Hesford demonstrates how geopolitical discourses on the war on terror, neoliberal development, and human rights map vulnerability onto certain children's bodies—but not others. Dr. Hesford examines the transnational mediation of the story of Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai, the 15-year-old shot by the Taliban for her advocacy for Pakistani girls' right to education. In contrast to the translations of her story into stock narratives of gendered victimization, Malala's navigation of diverse geopolitical agendas and media compels us to recognize youth activists' transnational literacy practices and politicized subjectivities, and the value of a transnational approach to teaching rhetoric and writing in the digital age.

Author of two award-winning monographs, two co-edited collections, and numerous essays published in such journals as *PMLA*, *College English*, and *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, Professor Hesford is also the recipient of two outstanding teaching awards. Her teaching and scholarly interests intersect in her current book project, *Exceptional Rhetorics: Regulating Childhood and Children's Human Rights*.

GLOBAL GIRLHOODS: TRANSNATIONAL MEDIA, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND RHETORIC/WRITING STUDIES

WMS
Common
Room

February

21

3:30
PM