

STEFAN TIMMERMANS

Saving Babies? The Consequences of Newborn Genetic Screening



Wednesday, February 20 / 8:00 p.m. / Free
1104 Harold Frank Hall, UCSB

Every baby born in the United States is screened for more than fifty genetic disorders. Though the early detection of these abnormalities can potentially save lives, the test also has a high percentage of false positives—inaccurate results that can take a brutal emotional toll on parents before they are corrected. Now some doctors are questioning whether the benefits of these screenings outweigh the stress and pain they sometimes produce.

In *Saving Babies?*, Stefan Timmermans and Mara Buchbinder evaluate the consequences and benefits of state-mandated newborn screening—and the larger policy questions they raise about the inherent inequalities in American medical care that limit the effectiveness of this potentially lifesaving technology. Stefan Timmermans, professor and chair of the Sociology Department and faculty fellow at the Institute for Society and Genetics at UCLA, is the award-winning author of *Postmortem: How Medical Examiners Explain Suspicious Deaths*.

Presented by the Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life at UCSB.



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