

On October 20 and 21, 2017, the Duke University Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina hosted a [conference on drone warfare](#). The conference was entitled, simply “Conference Against the Use of Drones in Warfare.” Amy Laura Hall was the faculty organizer for the event. Jon Bass designed the poster for the event.

Military operations using drones are not heralded as victories, or covered widely in the mainstream press. As a result, the use of drones in warfare is largely invisible to people in the U.S. Unless a person actively seeks out information about the use of drones in warfare, this form of war remains invisible to people in whose name the operations are carried out. This conference featured speakers from different areas of expertise on the problems with and the ramifications of the use of drones in warfare. In other words, this was not a conference to debate the use of drones in warfare, but a conference to encourage students, scholars, and citizens to be informed about problems related to the use of drones in warfare. This was a conference for people of different faiths and people who do not profess a faith, people who already are concerned about the ramifications of using drones in warfare, and people who were basically unaware of the use of drones in warfare.

This conference was made possible with support from: Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America; Interfaith Network on Drone Warfare; North Carolina Peace Action; Duke Human Rights Center at the Franklin Humanities Institute; North Carolina Council of Churches; Board of Church and Society, North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church; National Religious Campaign Against Torture; Elaine Heath, Dean of Duke University Divinity School; Luke Powery, Dean of Duke University Chapel; Alan and Joan Felton; The National Council of Churches, and Alliance of Baptists. Registration cost was \$5 for students; \$25 for non-students.

Speakers included:

Marjorie Cohn, Professor Emerita at Thomas Jefferson School of Law

Benjamin Friedman, Research Fellow in Defense and Homeland Security Studies, Cato Institute

Lisa Hajjar, Professor of Sociology, UC Santa Barbara

Murtaza Hussain, Journalist, The Intercept

Caren Kaplan, Professor of American Studies, UC Davis

Pardiss Kebriaei, Center for Constitutional Rights

Lisa Ling, Former technical sergeant in the U.S. Air Force

Jeff Matsler, Bioethicist, U.S. Army

Lisa Parks, Professor, Comparative Media Studies, MIT

Kara Slade, Theologian and former aerospace engineer

Filmmaker [Madiha Tahir](#) came to Durham for a special showing of [“Wounds of Waziristan”](#) on October 15.

Duke University Press hosted a Break and Book Table showcasing [Life in the Age of Drone Warfare](#), edited by Caren Kaplan and Lisa Parks.