

<http://somatosphere.net/2010/09/subjectivity-politics-and-medical.html>

Subjectivity, Politics and Medical Anthropology: The 2010 Marett Lecture by Professor Byron J. Good

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It has been a long time since I made [my last contribution](#) here. In addition to starting a new job I've been deeply involved with blogging and other online activities for the Green Movement in Iran. But I think it's time for me to come back here, and as a way of working my way back into the topic of subjectivity and specifically [political subjectivity](#) which I had started last year, I thought I could start by sharing with you a great lecture that was given last week by my wonderful mentor and friend, Byron Good, on the topic of subjectivity and its relevance to medical anthropology and cultural psychiatry.



Professor [Byron J. Good](#) delivered this year's Marett Memorial Lecture at Exeter College, University of Oxford, on April 30. The Marett Lecture series has been held at Oxford since 1947 in honor of [Robert Ranulph Marett](#), and the list of lecturers reads like a who is who of leading anthropologists and philosophers, including E. E. Evans-Pritchard, Raymond Firth, Max Gluckman, Ernest Gellner, Fredrick Barth, Sherry Ortner, WVO Quine etc. (here's the [list of past presenters](#)).

Last week Dr. Good re-delivered his Marett talk at Harvard, and that is the lecture you will hear here. I have taken the liberty of leaving certain parts of the meeting out, which includes some more commentaries and the Q&A segment. The file opens with MIT anthropologist, [Michael MJ Fischer](#) presenting Byron Good, and ends with a commentary also by Mike Fischer. This talk was given on September 17, and the title is, "Theorizing the 'Subject' of Medical and Psychiatric Anthropology."

AMA citation

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