Preface: Exclusiones

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LASA2015 program co-chair Rosalva Aída Hernández Castillo has coordinated this issue of the Forum around another part of the Congress theme, “Exclusiones,” following upon “Precariedades” in the Fall 2014 Forum. In this important issue, she has collected short interventions by scholars and activists from Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, and Paraguay, as well as Canada, Finland, India, and Spain. Several of these scholars look at institutional marginalization: of social studies research in the neoliberal academy (Luis Ortiz and José Galeano), of robust South-South studies (Vasundhara Jairath), and exclusion of Francophone scholarship on Latin America (Anahi Morales Hudon). Others explore the painful questions of people that are still considered “deshechable” in Latin America, including emigrants (Liliana Suárez Navaz), LGBT individuals (Horacio Sívori), and people whose ethnicities and epistemologies do not always align with the dominant cultures in their countries (Gladys Tzul Tzul, Olivia Gall). Finally two of the articles look at the intersections of gender (Verónica Schild) and religion (Elina Vuola). As I write this note, Mexico continues to agonize over the painful revelations in Iguala around the 43 missing Ayotzinapa students, while around the globe November 20 was witness to massive vigils, protests, video messages, and tweets under the hashtag #YaMeCansé. This global call to action reminds us that even in the most desperate tragedies of the excluded we can also find hope for change and inclusion.