

Catherine Dormor response to Niamh Fahy

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Catherine Dormor

Slow violence cuts across notions of the swift, decisive action we often associate with the term violence. Slow violence speaks of gradual destruction, neglect and a turning away, even abandonment.

Discarded debris, a calf rotting in a stream becomes a narrative of poverty as an act of violence, of the folds and fissures within societal constructs that allow, even enable, some but not others to slip into.

Slow violence is no less violent, no less traumatic than its swifter relation. Its pernicious nature, its porosity, draws attention to its multiplicity and multifarious nature and the affects that lie in its wake.