



**Film Screening and Discussion: *Traces of the Trade*
Wednesday, September 22, 2010—6 p.m.
Main Classroom 134**

The Division of Institutional Diversity in conjunction with Trinity Cathedral will host a screening of a documentary film that unearths a hidden legacy of slavery in America. *Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North* was one of the few documentaries chosen from 953 submissions to be shown at the Sundance Film Festival in January, 2008. It traces a journey by Katrina Browne, the filmmaker, and nine of her cousins into the dark past of the slave trade which enriched their white New England family.

Dain Perry, one of the nine cousins, and his wife, Constance, will screen the film and facilitate a conversation on race, reconciliation and healing. *Traces of the Trade* is both a geographical and psychological retracing of the industry of the largest slave traders in American history, the DeWolf family of Bristol, Rhode Island, and an exploration into racism in America, a legacy of slavery that continues to negatively impact the country even today.

For generations the family's past has been hidden from view, but a group of descendents decided to retrace the Triangle Trade, from Bristol, Rhode Island, to Ghana, where they visited centuries old slave forts and dungeons and talked with African-Americans on their own homecoming pilgrimage, to the ruins of a family-owned sugar cane plantation in Cuba. Each encounter on their journey leaves family members shaken with new insights. Along the way many myths are debunked and new questions pondered. A primary debunked myth is that the North was the center of the abolition movement and had little to do with slavery. The fact is that the North was the center of the US slave trade, and the ownership of slaves was not uncommon.

The film has been shown on the PBS series Point of View (POV), won the Henry Hampton Award for Excellence in Film in 2009, and in July 2009 was nominated for an Emmy Award for historical research.