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Andelka Phillips

# Health Law, Ethics & Policy Seminar Series: Andelka Phillips

Thursday, November 17, 2016 - 12:30pm to 2:00pm

**Location:**

Solarium (room FA2) Falconer Hall - 84 Queen's Park

**Health Law, Ethics & Policy Seminar Series**

**presents**

**Andelka Phillips**

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***Contracting Away DNA - Direct-to-Consumer Genetic Tests for  
Health, Love, and More...***

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**Thursday, November 17, 2016**

**12:30 - 2:00**

**Solarium (Room FA2), Falconer Hall**

**84 Queen's Park**

Professor Phillips will discuss ongoing research on the DTC industry and its regulation. She will provide an overview of the direct-to-consumer (DTC) genetic testing industry, highlight the range of services available, and discuss the contracts used by DTC companies. These services now include tests for ancestry, health, diet and lifestyle, genetic relatedness (most often paternity), child talent, and infidelity tests. Professor Phillips has reviewed the contracts of 71 companies that provide tests for health purposes. Based on this review, she suggest that there are several types of terms commonly included in these contracts that are challengeable on the grounds of potential unfairness and that these documents may be failing to meet transparency requirements.

**Dr. Andelka M. Phillips** is the Ussher Assistant Professor in Information Technology Law at Trinity College Dublin. Her recent research has focused on the regulation of direct-to-consumer genetic tests, examining the industry's use of wrap contracts (browsewrap and clickwrap). She is currently working on a book, entitled *Buying Your Self on the Internet: Wrap Contracts and Personal Genomics* to be published by Edinburgh University Press. Her research interests are primarily in Information Technology Law, although she is also interested in medical law, specifically the use, storage, and treatment of sequenced genomic data and wearable health

monitoring devices. She recently published the article “Only a click away — DTC genetics for ancestry, health, love...and more: A view of the business and regulatory landscape” in *Applied & Translational Genomics*, and her other publications and presentations may be seen at:

<https://www.tcd.ie/research/profiles/?profile=phillian>  
and <https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/people/andelka-phillips>.

A light lunch will be provided.

For more information about this workshop, please contact  
Nadia Gulezko at [n.gulezko@utoronto.ca](mailto:n.gulezko@utoronto.ca).

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