



University  
of Victoria



# *Physicians vs. Fundamentalists: The Lull in English Witchcraft Convictions*

Catherine Reardon

Thursday, October 13

5:00-6:00 p.m. PT

David Turpin Building A110

Join us via Zoom: [uvic.ca/csrs/events](https://uvic.ca/csrs/events)

Tension between reformed Christians and early Stuart court physicians caused strife in early Stuart England. Reformed Christians argued that “witches” deserved the death penalty. Court physicians believed they suffered from ailments and should be treated, not persecuted. King Charles I’s opinions were influenced by his physicians; he changed the laws surrounding trials and thus few people were executed for witchcraft 1630-1640. Why were court physicians’ and “Puritan” beliefs so disparate? What was the end result?

**Catherine Reardon** is a graduate student in History at UVic and the William Lonsdale Graduate Fellow at the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society.

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