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My presentation demonstrated the significance of the extra economic processes and relations that are central to the creation of value in the waste and recycling economy of Lahore. In the context of Pakistan, the presentation demonstrated the complexity of the workings of what is known as the informal economy. Challenging overarching explanations of neoliberalism that only focus on the exploitation of marginalized groups, this presentation shed light on the social aspects of economic institutions. Focusing on scrapyards that rely on the labor of Afghan refugees, I demonstrate that along with appropriating the labor of a marginalized group, these scrapyards also provide a host of services and meanings to refugees and serve as an institution that provides them with refuge in their uncertain lives. I also demonstrate that the very process of creating economic value from waste in Pakistan depends on the sociality, relationships and non-economic exchanges that characterize these scrapyards. Working with waste in Pakistan's informal economy thus gives rise to a distinct form of life that is characterized by uncertainty, stigma and marginality on the one hand but also by social relationships of care and welfare and opportunity on the other. I therefore insist that the story of neoliberalism in Pakistan and particularly the expansion of the informal economy has to address these contradictions which can only be gleaned from attention to the specific ways in which the neoliberal economy is organized in the country.