



International Sociological
Association

Research Committee for
Women in Society (RC32)

Newsletter # 1
January 2015



Message from RC32 Co-Presidents



We are pleased to bring you greetings as the new Co-presidents of RC32

First of all we would like to extend our thanks to Evie Tastsoglou, the immediate past Chair (president) and Bandana Purkayastha, immediate past Secretary-Treasurer. We are grateful to them for the steady hands with which they have steered the affairs of our RC the past four years, and the generosity with which they continue to provide us, as Co-presidents, assistance as we learn the ropes, and support to the RC.

At this point we would like to extend our warmest congratulations to the rest of the incoming board:

Cynthia JOSEPH, President-elect;

Glenda BONIFACIO, Secretary-Treasurer;

Nazanin SHAHROKNI, Newsletter editor;

and the following Regional Representatives:

Agatha EGUAVOEN, and Chioma ONYIGE for Africa;

Bula BHADRA, Anita DASH, and Saori KAMANO for the Asia region [South, Southeast, East];

Julie MATTHEWS, for Australia;

Anna-Brit COE, Consuelo CORRADI, Francesca VIANELLO, and Chryssanthi ZACHOU, for Europe;

Alicia I. PALERMO, and Marlise MATOS, for Latin America and the Caribbean;

Nilay CABUK KAYA, and Rima SABBAN for the Middle East and West Asia.

Melanie HEATH for North America.

Yokohama was wonderful—as a city, the vibrancy of the ISA Congress, and the quality of the sessions that we held and participated in. In total we held 32 sessions that included joint sessions with other RCs and two roundtable sessions

of five roundtables each. Sessions were very full and for almost all panels some papers had to be slated “for distribution”. For the future we should like to think of ways to provide for “coverage” of all panels by as many RC32 members, especially Board members, as possible.

Two important outcomes of the Business meeting were the setting up of two ad-hoc committees, one to explore the subject of Gender Harassment in Fieldwork among RC32 members with the objective of submitting a proposal to the ICSU. Roberta Villalon is heading this committee. We appreciate all the constructive comments and recommendations submitted by RC32 members on this project and talks are already underway with ICSU on how best to approach the task. The second ad hoc committee chaired by Joanna Hadjicostandi will examine the current statutes and make recommendations for their revision. The latter committee is to bring its proposals for approval to the next business meeting, either at an interim conference or during the Forum in Vienna. Discussions regarding the statutes will commence soon after completion of the By-Elections.

Finally, we would like to invite members to share with us up-coming meetings in your regions that RC32 could co-sponsor or participate in. For starters we are extremely grateful to Maria Carmela Agodi and Isabella Crespi for inviting RC32 to join them for the 2015 European Sociological conference that will take place in Prague from August 25-28, 2015. RC32 members Akosua Adomako Ampofo and Glenda Bonafacio will be key note speakers in semi-plenary sessions titled, "Public policies and solidarity in women's lives: Comparing regions of the world to feed sociological imagination".

Wishing you all the very best for the season as well as a rest-filled break and a productive 2015!

Akosua and Josephine

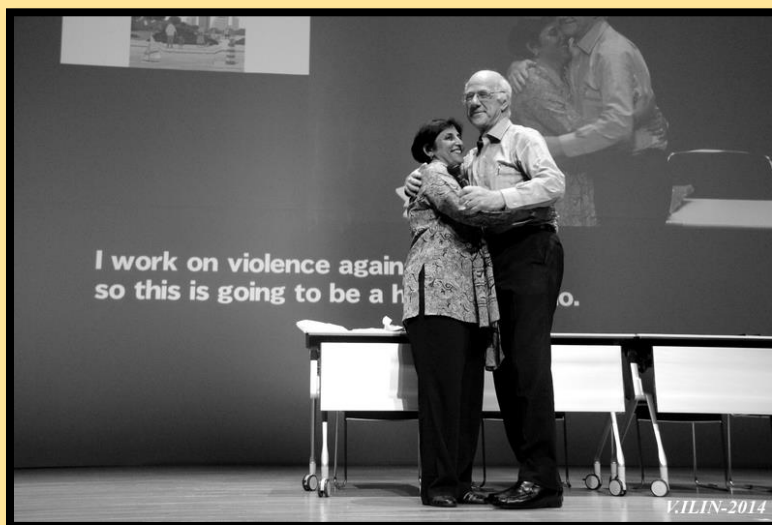
Margaret Abraham Elected as ISA President for 2014-2018



MARGARET ABRAHAM, PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY & SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE PROVOST FOR DIVERSITY INITIATIVES AT HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY, WAS THE FORMER CO-CHAIR OF RC32, AND THE ISA VICE PRESIDENT. SHE IS AN ACTION RESEARCHER COMMITTED TO PROMOTING SOCIAL JUSTICE. SHE HAS HAD NUMEROUS PUBLICATIONS AMONG THEM HER AWARD WINNING BOOK, *SPEAKING THE UNSPEAKABLE: MARITAL VIOLENCE AMONG SOUTH ASIAN IMMIGRANTS IN THE UNITED STATES* (RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2000; AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION SECTION ON ASIA AND ASIAN AMERICA OUTSTANDING BOOK AWARD IN 2002). SEE MORE:

[HTTP://WWW.MARGARETABRAHAMONLINE.COM/](http://www.margaretabrahamonline.com/)

At the XVIII World Congress of Sociology held in July 13-19, 2014, in Yokohama, Japan, our very own Margaret Abraham replaced Michael Burawoy as the new ISA President.



In a piece published in Global Dialogue, Abraham introduces her priorities.

She is above all concerned about the ISA's global character and intends to promote a more inclusive participation by offering support for emerging and early career sociologists, along with those who encounter multiple

economic and political barriers and thus are excluded from the global exchange of sociological knowledge.

Abraham's other goal is to enable sociologists to "embrace, extend and re-define the interdisciplinarity at the historical roots of Sociology." Thus, she intends to "work towards facilitating collaborative inquiry, enhancing productive exchanges in our global interactions" and creating a space for "sustained dialogue across disciplines."

Building on years of involvement in community-based research and activism, Abraham is willing to work with non-governmental agencies for progressive social justice and social change. She writes: "We need critical analysis but also action and intervention [...] I shall endeavor to further enhance the role of the ISA as an international body pro-actively engaged with the contemporary world."

As a feminist sociologists, Abraham has long been involved in research and activism on gendered violence and discrimination. Thus, as the new ISA President, her plan is to "initiate an ISA presidential global project to explore and coordinate a global network of sociologists and stakeholders, who will draw upon local, national, regional and global experiences to provide solutions for mitigating gendered and intersectional violence."

If you are interested to learn more about Margaret Abraham's plans and initiatives read "Strengthening Sociology's Commitment to Social Justice" in Global Dialogue.

If you are interested to learn more about her work on the intersections of research, teaching and community activism, particularly through the example of her work on domestic violence within South Asian communities in the US, watch the following interview: [Journeys Through Sociology: Margaret Abraham](#).

**WE WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE FORMER RC32
CO-CHAIR AND CURRENT MEMBER, DR. MARGARET
ABRAHAM, ON HER POSITION AS PRESIDENT OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION!**

Thank You Maggie!

A Note from Our Immediate Past President



Along with my congratulations and best wishes to the new RC 32 Board, I wish to acknowledge and thank especially Margaret Abraham, past RC 32 chair and current ISA president for great leadership, effective mentorship with RC 32 matters and beyond, and, above all, friendship and sisterhood. Maggie's

bright intellect, generosity of spirit, thoughtfulness and care for others, as well as commitment to feminist praxis have been, are, and will continue to be an inspiration to me and RC 32 members. We are especially proud of her, emerging out of RC 32 Board to first become ISA Vice President for Research (2010-2014) and now ISA President (2014-2018), one of only two women Presidents in the long ISA history. We wish Maggie the best in her new role and will stand with her in her efforts for institutional change and a feminist culture within ISA.

Evie Tastsoglou
RC 32 Past President (2010-2014)

Thank You RC 32!

A Note from Dr. Abraham to RC 32

Congratulations and Thank You RC32!

Dear Colleagues,

Congratulations to Nazanin Shahrokni for this first newsletter as RC32 Newsletter editor! I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the RC32 Board for 2014-2018, led by co-presidents, Akosua Adomako Ampofo and Josephine Beoku-Betts. I know that they will promote the goals of RC32 and proactively work in further strengthening the diverse forms of participation that will help make RC32 and ISA truly global.

Many years ago, when I was doing my research and activism with community based organizations that address domestic violence, I learned that often in the throes of work and collective organizing, we forget to take a moment to publically acknowledge or express our gratitude to the collective and individuals critical to our success. It's been six months since the Yokohama World Congress. As this is the first RC32 newsletter to come out for the 2014-2018 term, I want to say that I was deeply touched at the enthusiastic support that I received from RC32. I have learned much from you all in RC32, from your diverse scholarship and activism. Over the years I have been fortunate to be a part of a global community of scholars and activists committed to addressing feminist goals and issues of social justice.



I want to take this opportunity to thank the previous RC32 board for their valuable contributions and especially acknowledge Evangelia Tastsoglou for her excellent leadership as president of RC 32 (2014-2018). As some of you may know Evie has been involved in the RC 32 Board since 1999, including serving as Secretary and Treasurer (2001-2006) and President Elect (2006-2010). In my capacity as ISA Vice President Research, I got to see Evie work in

her role as RC32 President with deep intellectual thought, vision and care in promoting the RC32 goals. As the Program Coordinator for RC 32, she developed strong programs

for the 2nd ISA Sociology Forum in Buenos Aires in 2012 and for the XVIII ISA World Congress in Yokohama in 2014.

I also want to acknowledge the immense contributions of Bandana Purkayastha, who has been an active member of RC32 for many years and served on the RC 32 Board as newsletter editor from 2006-2010 and as Secretary-Treasurer for 2010-2014. As RC32 newsletter editor, Bandana produced informative newsletters always paying attention to global representation. Later, as treasurer-secretary, Bandana ensured that RC32 maximized the funding opportunities among our membership.

Over the years, I have had the pleasure of working closely with both Evie and Bandana in several capacities. Both are active feminist scholars, great administrators, caring friends and who consistently show a deep commitment to promoting the goals of RC32 and ISA. I am glad that they will both continue to serve the ISA. Evie was elected to the ISA executive committee and Bandana was appointed the American Sociological Association representative to the ISA. We are also very fortunate to have Kalpana Kannabiran, RC32 President (2006-2010) elected to the ISA Executive Committee. It's good to see women in leadership roles within ISA and I am glad that RC32 has been an integral part of this journey.

Let me end by saying that I look forward to working with you in my capacity as President of ISA. As I emphasized in my speech in Yokohama and wrote in Global Dialogue (<http://isa-global-dialogue.net/strengthening-sociologys-commitment-to-social-justice/>), the problem of violence against women must be an important part of the ISA's broader agenda on social justice. I plan to initiate an ISA presidential global project to explore and coordinate a global network of sociologists and stakeholders, who will draw upon local, national, regional and global experiences to provide solutions for mitigating gendered and intersectional violence. My remit is now to translate this intent into meaningful action – with your constructive critique, cooperation and collaboration.

Maggie

Margaret Abraham
President, International Sociological Association
Professor of Sociology, Hofstra University
<http://www.isa-sociology.org/>
Email: <mailto:margaret.abraham@hofstra.edu>
<http://margaretabrahamonline.com>

RC32 on Facebook

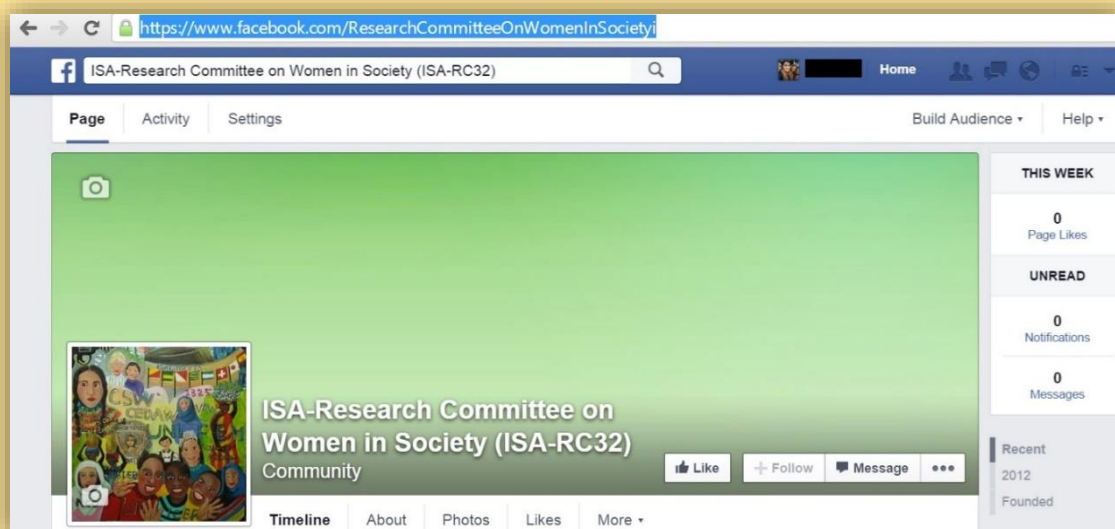


WE ARE ON FACEBOOK!

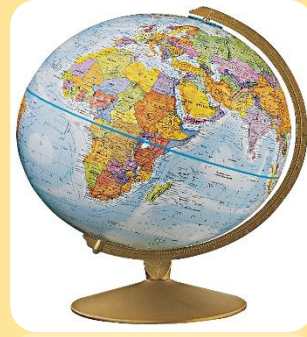
In order to reduce the communication work load for the secretary and create a more vibrant environment within which RC32 members could exchange information and get updates on various conferences and RC32-related events, we have created a Facebook Page for RC32 (See below). From now on, such news as announcements of promotions, publications, jobs, conferences, etc. will be communicated via our Facebook Page and will be administered by our newsletter editor. Please send such news via Facebook messages.

All announcements, information, instructions from the ISA, Co-presidents, and members of the board or Regional Representatives that are directly related to core RC 32 business will continue to be shared via our secretary.

If you already have a Facebook account, all you need to do is find our page on Facebook (ISA-Research Committee on Women in Society (ISA-RC32)) and “Like” it. You will then receive our updates on your Newsfeed. If you do not have a Facebook account, create one (!) and follow the above-mentioned steps. If you do not want to be on Facebook, you will still be receiving updates through emails as well as our newsletter. So no worries! No one is left behind!



News from the Regions



COUNTRY REPORT ON INDIA: WOMEN OF INDIA FACE START REALITY WITH FEW DROPS OF SOLACE

Bula Bhadra, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Calcutta

There has been an alarming increase in violence and crime against women in India. According to National Crime Records Bureau of Government of India, The crime against women during the year 2012 has increased by 6.8% over the year 2011 and by 24.7% over the year 2008. West Bengal, my home province with 7.5% share of country's female population has accounted for nearly 12.7% of total crime against women. And, not surprisingly, the rate of crime in cities at 47.8% was comparatively higher as compared to the national rate of 41.7%. A special feature of these crimes is the increase in rape associated with murder. Majority rapes are gang rapes and the rapists kill the victims in the atrocious manners possible. Conspicuously, these rape victims basically use different public transports compared to women who travel by their private transports like cars.

The other side of this brutal scenario is that a new genre of movement is on the rise where young women and men are participating together in relation to violence and crimes against women compared to earlier decades of mostly women protesters' as pressure groups.

A recent survey by Organization for Economic co-operation and Development (OECD) says that an average Indian man has the dubious distinction of spending all of 19 minutes a day on routine housework, among the lowest in the world. And data confirms that – the OECD study showed that Indian women spent a huge 298 minutes on routine housework such as cooking, laundry, pets, home maintenance etc. There is a yawning gap between men and women in India when it comes to time spent on doing unpaid work, women 352 minutes and men 52 minutes.

A development which generates new promises behind these dark clouds is though ground realities may be harsh for women in India; they're still determined to conquer the

skies. Almost 600 of the 5,050 pilots in Indian airlines are women, according to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). At 11.6%, this is way above the 3% global average estimated by the International Society of Women Airline Pilots. India is also seeing a steady rise in women pilots annually. The last five years saw 4,267 commercial pilots' licenses being issued, of which 628 or 14.7% went to women.

GENDER AND FOOD, REPORT FROM THE ESA RN33 MID-TERM CONFERENCE, GENDER EQUALITY AND INSTITUTIONS, NOVEMBER 16-17, NAPLES, ITALY

Francesca Alice Vianello, University of Padua, Italy, RC32 Regional Representative of Europe

The Mid-term Conference of the ESA Research Network 33 - Women's and Gender Studies entitled "Gender Equality and Institutions" that took place in Naples (Italy) last November was highly successful and hugely inspiring. There were many sessions on several stimulating issues. In particular in this short report I want to illustrate two linked sessions on "Gender and food", since they were particularly innovative and of sociological interest, considering also the up-coming Universal Exposition "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life" (Italy, 2015).

The two sessions discussed researches on female cooks and winemakers, on gendered food philosophies and on migrant fathers', mothers', children's and "alternative" communities' cultures and everyday practices in relation to food.

The first session entitled "The roots of 'real' food: dimensions of substantive citizenship in food production and consumption" coordinated by Franca Bimbi (University of Padua) discussed how food talks highlight converging and diverging interpretations on gender relations and on the global societal dynamics in the European and Mediterranean area. During the session three papers were presented: "The Roots of Food: From Natural Variety to Social Bio-diversities" by Silvia Segalla; "Faces of sustainability. Ecovillages: alternative communities or "traditional" extended families?" by Alice Brombin; "Veganism as implicit religion in a gender perspective" by Vincenzo Romania. Discussing women's cooks narratives, Segalla highlighted the very different ideas of motherhood and womanhood conveyed by "traditional" stories and self-representations. Also Brombin's talk challenged traditional representations of motherhood. She showed how the sustainable lifestyle of eco-villages affects the relationships among women, men and children. Exploring veganism as an implicit religion, the third paper presented by Romania explored how a vegan diet affects relationships inside and outside the family life, how it involves a change in the primary and secondary socialization processes, and how vegan and gender identities are conciliated.

The second session entitled “Gendered cultures around the table and in the kitchen” coordinated by Vincenzo Romania (University of Padua) discussed the intertwining relationships between gender and other dimension of people “identities”. The three oral presentations were: “Around the table and in the kitchen. Feeling at home or in exile? Gender dynamics in the multicultural city of superdiversities” by Francesco Della Puppa; “Producing ‘taste’ in a men’s field. Women as wine-makers by Paolo Gusmeroli; ‘From the children’s point of view. Food, definitions of biodiversity and meaningful relationships’ by Giulia Stortato. In the first talk, food was used as a lens to observe the transculturation processes that invest Italian cities, the experiential and substantial citizenship paths of migrant fathers, mothers and children; the transformation of family in the migration experience. In the second presentation, Gusmeroli proposed a gendered “critique of wine taste” highlighting how gender and class stereotypes of wine producers structure wine description and perception, naturalizing or subverting the consumers' categories. The last presentation, Storato explored relationships, experiences, and belongings that children associate to food and food practices, revealing children’s capability to influence the social order in which they live, usually defined and narrated by adults.

These sessions were a great opportunity to inspire future collaborations on the social and cultural relation between gender and food. Indeed, the research group on food, culture and society of the University of Padua had the opportunity to present the researches of some of its members at the LET'S 2014 conference, organised in the context of the Italian Presidency of the Council of the European Union. During this international event, which took place in Bologna from September 29 to October 1, Silvia Segalla, Alice Brombin, Paolo Gusmeroli and Martin Eynard jointly presented the poster “Food Studies: Understanding the Transition Between Food Production and Consumption”. The poster showed how investigating “food cultures” social sciences can enhance awareness on pluralism and bio-diversities, fostering the transition to a more inclusive society.

Furthermore, Franca Bimbi is the promoter and the scientific coordinator of the upcoming Conference “Culture, food and society. A gender perspective” that will take place at EXPO2015. The conference will involve four Italian Universities: University of Padua (representative Franca Bimbi); University Milano-Bicocca (Representative Carmen Leccardi); University of Milan (representatives Maurizio Ambrosini and Roberta Sassatelli); University of Naples Federico II (Representative Maria Carmela Agodi).

Finally, the ESA research network 33 has decided to continue to discuss this issue at the 12th Conference of the European Sociological Association (Prague, 2015) within the session “Gendered relationships as mediated by food-related practices and activities” (call for papers www.esa12thconference.eu/rn33-womens-and-gender-studies). Contact persons: Franca Bimbi franca.bimbi@unipd.it, Silvia Segalla silvia.segalla@hotmail.it.

Call for Papers



Conferences

International Sociological Association

2016 ISA Forum, Vienna, Austria, 10-14 July, 2016

Research Committee on Women and Society (RC 32)

Call for Session Proposals

RC 32 is pleased to invite members to submit session proposals to be considered for the RC 32 Interim Conference to be held during the ISA Forum 2016 (July 10-14) to be held in Vienna, Austria. The theme for the forum is “The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and Struggles for a Better World.” Reflecting on the main theme of the Forum, Research Committee 32 has titled its sub-theme for the interim conference as “The Futures that We Want: Women’s Activism and Visionary Leadership in Local and Transnational Struggles for a Better World”.

As a member of RC 32, we solicit your active participation in making this conference a success.

Planning for the Program:

I. Theme and Content:

In planning for the 2016 RC 32 program, we want to ensure that it incorporates the following:

- Reflect the theme of the ISA Forum “The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World” (isa@isa-sociology.org).
“This theme is meant to provide a platform for the wide spectrum of our many Research Committees (RCs), Working Groups (WGs), and Thematic Groups (TGs)

and to encourage forward-oriented research ranging from the tiny worlds in micro situations to the broadest macro dynamics affecting the entire planet. The rather uncommon plural “s” in futures points to the diversity of possibilities, projects, and visions. Social actors aspire, desire, envision, expect, fear, imagine, plan, and ultimately shape in their more or less contentious interactions at multiple scales new conditions. Empirical, theoretical, and normative research from around the world is needed to help tackle the critical problems and opportunities in our age of advanced globalization” (ISA Website, 2014)

- Sessions must reflect but not be limited to the theme of the ISA forum or RC32 sub-theme. As such, a diverse range of session themes representing the mission, goals, diverse membership and particular interests of RC 32 members are solicited.
- We are particularly interested in themes that are relevant to our European members, especially Austria. We welcome all our bilingual colleagues and members with interests in Europe and Austria to submit proposals for RC 32 sessions

II. Number of Sessions

Based on our membership which is over 200, we will be allocated 18 sessions. This will include a slot for a Business Meeting.

- According to Mark Shulz, President ISA Forum, 2016, “Joint sessions should be limited to no more than 50% of a unit’s total number of sessions” with other committees, working groups, and thematic groups. We recommend a lower limit for joint sessions (one third of our overall allocated time slots, that is, about 6 sessions which will allow us to organize more sessions that reflect our thematic research priorities). We encourage collaboration across regions in co-organizing sessions.
- The final program should include a combination from some of the following types of sessions:
 1. Regular session
 2. Special Session on the RC 32 theme for the Forum
 3. Roundtables or “Author Meets their Critics Sessions”
 4. Panel Sessions
 5. Joint Sessions
 6. Poster sessions
- Session proposals should be up to 250 words. Session proposals should be sent to the RC 32 Co-Chairs and Conference Coordinators Akosua Adomako Ampofo and

Josephine Beoku-Betts (rc.32.presidents@gmail.com). The deadline for submission of session proposals is March 9, 2015.

Journal Articles

Qualitative Sociology, Special Issue on Gender and Globalization

In the past decade, pressing social changes have brought issues of gender, sexuality, and globalization to the fore, many of which are just beginning to be studied sociologically. New social movements addressing issues of gender and sexuality are being organized at a global level – including LGBTQ activism, anti-trafficking activism, and domestic worker advocacy – and inciting contentious debates. The Arab Spring and turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa have raised new questions about women’s agency and rights in Muslim societies and struggles over democratization. In some parts of the world, masculinity is going through significant shifts. Revitalized religious movements have gained influence across the globe, sparking renewed debate over gender and sexuality within these traditions.

Yet too often there is disconnection between studies that examine transnational institutions and movements and those that focus on the transnational dimensions of social phenomena in particular places. Additionally, sociologists who focus on different world regions or disciplinary subfields are not always in conversation. Finally, gender and sexuality in the United States are rarely studied with a transnational lens.

This special issue of *Qualitative Sociology* aims to address these gaps and highlight cutting-edge research on gender and sexuality in diverse global contexts. The goal is to deepen global/transnational sociology with a gendered lens, and help to advance a theoretical agenda for understanding how gender and sexuality are both constitutive of and constituted by contemporary global and transnational social relations.

This special issue seeks papers based on qualitative research on the transnational dimensions of gender and sexuality and/or that contribute to theorizing gender and globalization. Articles on the Global South are especially welcome. Empirical and theoretical issues may include (but are not limited to):

- New forms of gendered labor and the global economy
- Gender and class in global contexts
- Transnational social movements addressing gender and sexuality
- Agency in an age of globalization
- Sexuality
- Civil society

- Migration
- Health and Disease
- Nationalism
- Religion
- Intimacy and Relationships
- Globalization and Masculinities
- Methodological Issues (especially in understanding links between the transnational and local)

The deadline for submissions is: April 1, 2015.

All papers should be submitted through: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/quas/> and should comply with the journal's standard editorial guidelines. When submitting an article, please send a note to Rachel Rinaldo and Manisha Desai (addresses below), and cc Rebecca Hanson (beccara606@gmail.com).

Address questions to:

Rachel Rinaldo, University of Virginia, rar8y@virginia.edu

Manisha Desai, University of Connecticut, Manisha.desai@uconn.edu

Current Sociology, Special Issue on International Perspectives on Femicide: Theoretical Explanations, Empirical Analyses and Social Policies

Special Issue Editors (alphabetical order): Santiago Boira, UNIVERSIDAD de ZARAGOZA, (Spain), sboira@unizar.es; Consuelo Corradi, LIBERA UNIVERSITÀ MARIA SS. ASSUNTA, (Italy), corradi@lumsa.it; Chaime Marcuello-Servós, UNIVERSIDAD de ZARAGOZA, (Spain), chaime@unizar.es; Shalva Weil, HEBREW UNIVERSITY, (Israel), Shalva.weil@mail.huji.ac.il

Femicide is a scourge of humanity and a social problem which is still awaiting solutions. The term Femicide is a "neologism", used by Diane Russell in 1976 in the first International Tribunal on Crimes Against Women in Brussels and then quickly disseminated among feminists and sociologists working in the field of violence.

There are different approaches to this phenomenon. Femicide is the voluntary homicide of a woman, because she is a woman. However, femicide is intrinsically different from homicide. It is more than a way of naming the facts, it includes a cultural change and political agenda.

In 2013, the Vienna Declaration on Femicide in the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, proposed "that femicide is the killing of women and

girls because of their gender, which can take the form of, inter alia: (1) the murder of women as a result of intimate partner violence; (2) the torture and misogynist slaying of women (3) killing of women and girls in the name of “honour”; (5) targeted killing of women and girls in the context of armed conflict; (5) dowry-related killings of women; (6) killing of women and girls because of their sexual orientation and gender identity; (7) the killing of aboriginal and indigenous women and girls because of their gender; (8) female infanticide and gender-based sex selection foeticide; (9) genital mutilation related deaths; (10) accusations of witchcraft; and (11) other femicides connected with gangs, organized crime, drug dealers, human trafficking and the proliferation of small arms”.

The social context, motivations, characteristics of the perpetrator, and victim-perpetrator relationship which define the killing of a woman differentiate them from those which define the killing of a man. The Academic Council of the United Nations System has described femicide as a global issue which demands urgent public action. A great share of femicide, ranging worldwide from 45% to 65% of total female victims, is the result of intimate partner violence. Global prevalence studies show that the proportion of murdered women who are killed by a partner is six times higher than the proportion of murdered men by the same type of perpetrator.

This Special Issue aims at assessing state-of-the-art research on this contested topic, by looking at the different levels in which research can improve knowledge and action. The Special Issue seeks to bring together different theoretical perspectives explaining lethal violence against women, and especially to throw light on the theoretical underpinnings clarifying what femicide is and what is the relationship with relevant social phenomena such as poverty, marginalization, gender inequality and more. Country studies i.e. interpretations of available data and policies linking theory, research and action, are encouraged.

Submission deadline: end of March 2015

Full papers should be sent to the Guest Editors by email, following the Current Sociology Guidelines [see at: <http://www.uk.sagepub.com/msg/csi.htm>]

Book Chapters

GENDER AND YOUTH MIGRATION: A GLOBAL SURVEY, Edited by Glenda Tibe Bonifacio, University of Lethbridge

I am accepting original submissions of research-based studies on gender and youth migration around the world. Young people, those under 35 years old, migrate with their families or on their own for various reasons—for example, education, work, asylum, and

even as a consequence of environment disasters. However, their migration is often considered in migration discourse as part of a family unit thus erasing the particularities of their experiences and specificities of their challenges and opportunities. How females, males and transgender youth (LGBTQ) experience the journey, both domestic and international migration, is the focus of this collection. Any topic or thematic areas of interest are welcome at this point.

Please submit a 500-word abstract of your proposed contribution to this book collection to bonifacioglenda@gmail.com using the subject heading: youth migration. Also include your current affiliation and position, contact email, and a short description of your research interests and, if applicable, published works.

Deadline for submission of abstracts is February 28, 2015.

Only those contributors with accepted abstracts will be notified by March 15, 2015. Full-length book chapters of about 6,000 words (excluding references) should be ready by June 30, 2015. Final approval of submitted book chapters rest with the publisher.

**Glenda Tibe Bonifacio is the editor of *Feminism and Migration: Cross-cultural Engagements* (Springer 2012), and *Gender and Rural Migration: Realities, Conflict and Change* (Routledge 2014).*

GENDER AND EQUESTRIAN SPORT: RIDING AROUND THE WORLD, Edited by Miriam Adelman and Kirrilly Thompson

The editors are putting together a companion volume to their "Gender and Equestrian Sport: Riding around the World" (Springer, 2012) and are looking (almost desperately!) for contributions from parts of the world that they would like to include but have not thus far been able to, especially the Middle East, China and other Asian societies. The particular focus of this volume is "Equestrian cultures in Global and Local Arenas" yet thus far they have only received contributions from Europe, North América, Latin América and Morocco. For more information contact: miriamad2008@gmail.com.

PLURAL MODERNITIES – PLURAL GENDER RELATIONS

The book project addresses two central strands in modern sociological thought that are still largely unconnected: the plural, multiple modernities approach and feminist theory. Both emphasize the context dependence of social relations and their dynamics of change.

The paradigm of plural, multiple modernities completely broke with the assumptions of classical modernization theory in the 1990s - contrary to the burgeoning convergence

assumptions in some globalization theories. According to the plural modernities paradigm, western societies neither have a monopoly on modernity, nor are they by definition its starting point. Consequently, it is assumed that there are various paths into modernity and that various modernities exist in as well as beyond the western world. Historical evidence shows that globalization arises from multi-centered origins, and this, in turn, has consequences for the understanding of modernization. Parallel, a change of perspectives towards shared and interwoven modernities was inspired by the study of global interdependencies. Finally, postcolonial approaches contributed to the decentration of western social theories and to a deeper understanding of sociology's situatedness as a particularistic, western medium of reflexion. This led to a reconceptualisation of social theory that is related to the perspective of plural modernities. This approach emphasizes the notion that social change, development and transformation of modernity unfolds in different patterns all over the world, whether institutionally, culturally or structurally. This also means that historically specific realms of experience cannot simply be projected onto one another.

Although it seems natural for various reasons, the paradigm of plural modernities has not been examined from a gender perspective yet. The relation between western history of knowledge and western social history has been elaborated in gender theory in a very sophisticated and differentiated way. On the other hand, the research of non-western cultures tends to overlook that the existence of asymmetrical gender relations does not necessarily indicate similar experiences of inequality. Hence, the book project aims to investigate the variety of global gender relations from the perspective of the plural modernities paradigm. This means to consider the social situatedness of gender as a spatially, temporally, politically and culturally varying category, and with that, its context dependence by using a social theory that is explicitly committed to study social relations in their institutional heterogeneity and cultural diversity. That way, the multiplicity of gender structures, and the forms and direction of their transformation, can be understood as an expression of plural configurations and dynamics of change. This includes asking for possible commonalities and structural similarities, without taking them for granted.

The paradigm of plural modernities allows for an expansion and diversification of theoretical and empirical horizons. Western societies are clearer recognizable as one institutional and cultural configuration of modernity among many. This includes the dualistic structure of gender and its specific career as a category of social identity and social situatedness. The basic assumption is that different civilizational constellations result in different forms of modernity and herein embedded gender configurations.

Against this background, we cordially call on contributions that discuss the global diversity of gender relations from the perspective of plural modernities. Theoretically

and empirically based proposals on European and especially on non-European societies, whether on South America, Africa, West or East Asia, are welcome. Analyzing patterns of change from the perspective of the plural modernities paradigm is supposed to be the centre stage, and here particularly the respective relationship between continuity and discontinuity. Instead of merely tracing the effects of western influence, the reconstruction of cultural (gender) programs in different socio-historical contexts and political constellations is central. From this perspective, seemingly counter-movements will be recognizable as independent variants of modernity. Hereunto, we welcome individual case studies that focus on legal, political, economic or other social fields. The primarily interesting issue of gender relations can be approached from a wide range of topics, such as social inequality, sexuality/ sexual politics, intimacy, family, work, law etc. It is planned to publish the book in the book series of the Section for Women's and Gender Studies in the German Sociological Association (Forum Women's and Gender Studies).

Instructions for authors and deadlines:

We call for abstracts with a length of 750 words with the following information (plus bibliographical references), sent as a Word or PDF file until 10.03.2015 to each editor (angelika.poferl@sk.hs-fulda.de, heidemarie.winkel@mailbox-tu-dresden.de):

- Title of the proposed contribution, names of all authors and contact details
- Relevance of the research question
- Key concepts, research approach, with a reference to the paradigm of plural modernities, objective and methodology

If provisionally accepted, full articles (maximum 50.000 signs including bibliographical references) are to be submitted by 30.12.2015 for review.

Members' News

Awards

Esther Ngan-ling Chow, Emerita Professor of Sociology, at the American University (USA) received a national "Jesse Bernard Award" given by the American Sociological Association. The award was given in recognition of her lifetime scholarly contributions by incorporating women and gender into sociological theories and research. In particular, she has offered groundbreaking sociological analyses of intersectionality to the

understanding of women of color, including but not limited to Asian and Asian American women. (See more at: <http://www.american.edu/cas/sociology/index.cfm>).

Josephine Beoku-Betts is the 2014 recipient of the Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) Feminist Activist Award. The award is given for her “contributions to feminist activism and her consistent use of sociology to better the lives of women.”

Suaad Zayed AL-Oraimi received the award for the best creative work during the international book-fair in Sharjah, UAE, for her novel, *The Road of Beautiful Women* (Al Saqi, Beirut, Lebanon).

Publications

Raewyn Connell has a new publication that takes up the theme of one of our successful sessions at Yokohama: “Rethinking Gender from the South,” *Feminist Studies* 40 (3): 518-540.

Bula Bhadra has 2 ongoing projects and 2 new publications:

Ongoing projects:

1. “The Impact of New Technologies in Children's Everyday Lives: A Sociological Study of Kolkata’s Children” (Project funded by University Grants Commission, India)
2. ‘Babies Made in India’: “A Tale of Surrogacy in the Global Supermarket of Reproductive Alternatives”(Project funded by University of Calcutta)

Publications:

1. Bhadra, Bula, (ed.) *Sociology of Childhood and Youth: Themes in Indian Sociology Series*, Vol.3 New Delhi: Sage Publications 2014.
2. “Gendered New Technology: Neglected Terrain of Globalization” in *Essays in Honour of Professor Yogendra Singh Modernization, Globalization and Social Transformation*, vol. 4 (ed.) I. P. Modi (Jaipur, India: Rawat, 2015), pp. 28-45.

Demos, Vasilikie has co-edited the following book:

Demos, Vasilikie, Catherine White Berheide and Marcia Texler Segal. eds. 2014. *Gender Transformation in the Academy*. Bingley, UK: Emerald.

Chapters in this volume of the Advances in Gender Research series explore the following themes: "Doing Family While Having a Career," "The Esteem of Peers: Networks, Promotion to Full Professor and Awards," and, "Women: From Bias to Leadership." They cover gender transformation globally including in Australia, Austria, Portugal, the United Kingdom, the United States, South Africa, and Sweden. Many from the United States feature studies funded through the National Science Foundation (NSF) ADVANCE grants program and focus on gender equity in the STEM disciplines.

Contributors to the volume include Cynthia D. Anderson, Diane C. Bates, Catherine White Berheide, Elizabeth Borland, Lisa Dilks, Mychel Estevez, Patricia Wonch Hill, Melissa Latimer, Christine Mattley, Julia McQuillan, James Nolan, Marjukka Ollilainen, Catherine Richards Solomon, Judith Secker, Susan Walzer, and Kathrin Zippel. A 16 page summary report of the volume is available. To access the report, table of contents, and abstracts and to order the volume or individual chapters, go to: <http://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/products/books/series.htm?id=1529-2126>.

Rima Sabban has a book chapter on migrant workers published in Japanese:

Wangan Arabu Shokoku no Imin Rodosha: "Tagaikokujin Kokka" no Shutsugen to Seikatsu Jittai (Migrant Workers in the Arab Gulf States: Growing Foreign Population and their Lives) edited by Naomi Hosoda.

Rima Sabban, trans. by Namie Tsujigami Column 3: Shinderera Monogatari to shite no UAE Kazoku to "Kaji" ni yoru Monogatari no Gyakuten (The UAE Family a Cinderella story with a twist of "domestic work" tossing the tale inside-out?) Pp. 116-121.

See more at: <http://www.akashi.co.jp/book/b185223.html>.

Conference Participation

Raewyn Connell attended the conference *Migrations of Knowledge: Potentials and Limits of Knowledge Production and Critique in Europe and Africa*, held in December 2014, in Germany.

Anna-Britt Coe, Department of Public Health and Clinical Medicine, Umeå University, Sweden, attended, the "G14 - Challenging Power," Swedish National Gender Research Conference held from November 26th to 28th in Umeå, Sweden.

Together with her colleague, Maria Wiklund, Anna-Britt Coe did combined presentations of two papers from their project. The title of their presentation was: "Youth, Health and

Gender: Exploring the Connections among Civically-engaged Youth in one Swedish Municipality."

In addition, Anna-Britt will attend and present at the Journal of Youth Studies Conference, "Contemporary Youth, Contemporary Risks," between March 30 and April 1, 2015 in Copenhagen, Denmark. The title of her paper is: "Politics as multiple processes: Perceptions among a sample of young activists in Sweden". This is the second time that she is presenting at this conference and it is an important event within which to advocate for more gender scholarship as well as global perspectives. Here is the conference website: <http://www.jysc2015.org/>.

Other News

Mariarosa Dalla Costa, mariarosa.dallacosta@unipd.it, has given an Archive of feminist history to the Civic Library of Padua. She writes: "This has been my last gift to the city where I spent since the 60s my activity of University teacher (now I retired) and I hope it can be a useful gift also for the ISA of which I was a member and the new generations of scholars worldwide."

The "Archive of Lotta Femminista for wages for housework. Donation by Mariarosa Dalla Costa" – complete with a descriptive inventory – will be open to the public by May 19, 2014. This inventory will be available in paper form in the room reserved for consultation in the history section of the Civic Library. To facilitate preparations for on-site research, it will also be available in "Archivi" through the Civic Library's webpage. The Archive contains: documents of Lotta Femminista and of the network Wages for Housework at the national and international level; documents of other feminist movements in Italy and in other countries; documents of other movements in Italy and in other countries. These materials are mainly from the 1970s but some are more recent. In total, there are thousands of items, including both paper documents and multimedia recordings. For more information, send emails to: biblioteca.civica@comune.padova.it.



Last but not least, we would like to celebrate **Raewyn Connell's** lifelong contributions to the field of Gender & Feminist Studies!

On 5 September, Raewyn gave her official Last Lecture, or anti-inaugural, in the Great Hall at Sydney University. The topic was "The Knowledge Industry and Counter-Power: Subversive Futures for Intellectual Workers".

See more here: www.raewynconnell.net.