RC-31 Newsletter, Fall 2021

In this issue:

The climate crisis is dominating my thoughts. For any socio-political issue on my mind, it is becoming difficult to avoid shifting immediately to the question: how is this issue connected to the failure to get CO_2 emissions under meaningful control, and to the ever-increasing likelihood of disastrous global heating?

The relevant socio-political issue for us is of course migration. The effort of academic researchers to connect migration and the climate crisis is becoming enormous – in effect, producing so much output that it resists absorption, certainly by any single reader. (Or perhaps I'm merely signalling my own limitations, via that sentence...)

It is not apparent to me that this scholarly output is matched by a comparable engagement in the political sphere. The topic of migration is barely visible in the programme of the COP26 Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, currently underway. The programme contains an item for exactly one relevant event: a single session in the "green zone" (the portion of the conference accessible to the general public – which means it is not part of the core negotiations among world leaders).

The event topic itself is important enough: "Addressing Migration Driven by Disasters, Climate Change and Environmental Degradation in West Africa", led by a Senior Regional Advisor from the International Organization for Migration. But the relegation of this theme to a "side event"

(yes, that's the term used in the programme) signals its low status.

This situation strikes me as preposterous in its lack of seriousness. Now, the even greater blindness consists of weaknesses in the core negotiations and commitments themselves. If we could be more confident about prospects for genuine reductions in emissions, perhaps we wouldn't need to worry as much about the need to plan for life-changing adaptations, including mass migration on a scale most people would currently find difficult to fathom. I do not have that sort of confidence.

Migration induced by climate crisis is happening now, as we all know. It will grow and grow and grow. In our lives more generally, we can try to make choices (including activism) intended to achieve a more appropriate political response, focused on reduction of emissions. In our scholarly endeavours, we can perhaps contemplate our goals in ways that reflect the difficult reality we're likely heading towards. My own sense of mission connects to the idea that, when people have a good understanding of migration, they are less inclined to experience it as a threat. Especially through my teaching, I want to occupy the ground that is otherwise claimed by power-hungry politicians who use migration as a weapon, who poison voters against immigrants by selling simplistic ideas designed to frighten and enrage rather than to enlighten.

This perspective becomes ever more urgent for me as we get closer to a world where climate-induced migration becomes a reality that we cannot consign to a "side event".
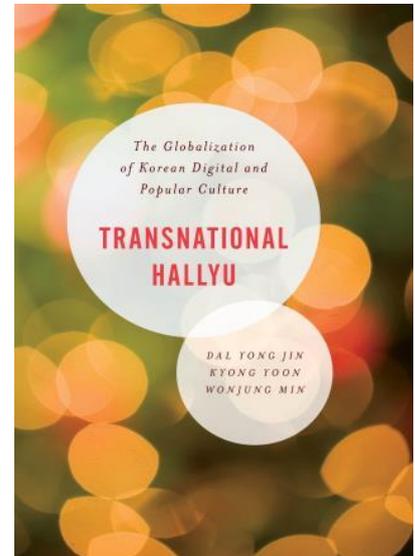
David Bartram

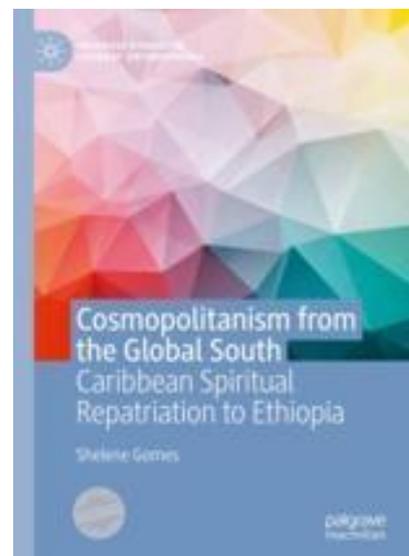University of Leicester

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MEMBERS NEW BOOKS

Jin, D.Y., Yoon, K., & Min, W. (2021). *Transnational Hallyu: The Globalization of Korean Digital and Popular Culture.* Rowman & Littlefield. Link to publisher

While the influence of Western, Anglophone popular culture has continued in the global cultural market, the Korean cultural industry has substantially developed and globally exported its various cultural products, such as television programs, pop music, video games and films. The global circulation of Korean popular culture is known as the Korean wave, or Hallyu. Given its empirical scope and theoretical contributions, this book will be highly appealing to any scholar or student interested in media globalization and contemporary Asia popular culture. These chapters present the evolution of Hallyu as a transnational process and addresses two distinctive aspects of the recent Hallyu phenomenon - digital technology integration and global reach. This book will be the first monograph to comprehensively and comparatively examine the translational flows of Hallyu through extensive field studies conducted in the US, Canada, Chile, Spain and Germany.

Gomes, S. (2021). *Cosmopolitanism from the Global South: Caribbean Spiritual Repatriation to Ethiopia*. Palgrave Macmillan. Link to publisher

This is a book about the power of the imagination to move persons from the Global South as they reinvent themselves. This ethnography focuses on Caribbean Rastafari who have undertaken a spiritual repatriation to Ethiopia over several decades particularly, though not exclusively, from Jamaica. Shelene Gomes traces the formation of a Rastafari community located in the multicultural Jamaica Safar or Jamaica neighbourhood in the Ethiopian city of Shashamane following a twentieth century grant of land from the former Ethiopian Emperor, Haile Selassie I. In presenting narratives of spiritual repatriation, everyday behaviours and ritualised events, Gomes provides an ethnographic account of Caribbean cosmopolitan sensibilities. Situated in the historical conditions of colonial West Indian plantations and the asymmetries of freedom and bondage within modernity, a recognition of global positionalities and local situatedness characterises this case of cosmopolitanism from the Global South.
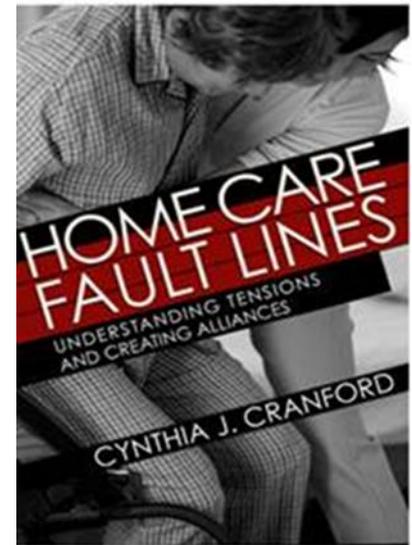
Cranford, C. J. (2020). *Home Care Fault Lines: Understanding Tensions and Creating Alliances*. Cornell University Press. Link to publisher

In this revealing look at home care, Cynthia J. Cranford illustrates how elderly and disabled people and the immigrant women workers who assist them in daily activities develop meaningful relationships even when their different ages, abilities, races, nationalities, and socioeconomic backgrounds generate tension. As Cranford shows, workers can experience devaluation within racialized and gendered class hierarchies, which shapes their pursuit of security.

Cranford analyzes the tensions, alliances, and compromises between security for workers and flexibility for elderly and disabled people, and she argues that workers and recipients negotiate flexibility and security within intersecting inequalities in varying ways depending on multiple interacting dynamics.

What comes through from Cranford's analysis is the need for deeply democratic alliances across multiple axes of inequality. To support both flexible care and secure work, she argues for an intimate community unionism that advocates for universal state funding, designs culturally sensitive labor market intermediaries run by workers and recipients to help people find jobs or workers, and addresses everyday tensions in home workplaces.

Paparusso, A. (2021). *Immigrant Integration in Europe: A Subjective Well-Being Perspective*. Springer. Link to publisher

This topical book sheds light on immigrants' subjective well-being by analysing the main factors associated with self-reported life satisfaction among immigrants and natives. It thereby draws upon subjective components of well-being, which are now receiving growing attention in well-being research. It also fills in a gap in migration research, which has not yet focused on the study of immigrants' well-being. Starting from a broader focus on Europe, the book then looks more closely at Italy. This is a key country in the immigration policy field in Europe, but where the study of immigrants' integration from a subjective perspective has been rarely addressed so far. The book provides suggestions for constructing and implementing immigration and integration policies by not only taking into account the needs of the host societies, but also the experiences, opinions, requirements and expectations of immigrants. This book is very useful for academic and policy researchers working on immigrant integration issues.

Chuang, Y.H. (2021). *Une minorité modèle?: Chinois de France et racisme anti-Asiatiques*. La Découverte. [Link](#) to publisher

Depuis l'assassinat du couturier chinois Chaolin Zhang en 2016 à Aubervilliers, les médias et les pouvoirs publics ont pris conscience de l'existence d'un racisme anti-Asiatiques au sein de la société française. L'expression de ces préjugés culmine en 2020 lorsque la pandémie de Covid-19 frappe le monde. La révélation décomplexée des sentiments antichinois en France dévoile un mécanisme d'essentialisation encore peu étudié.
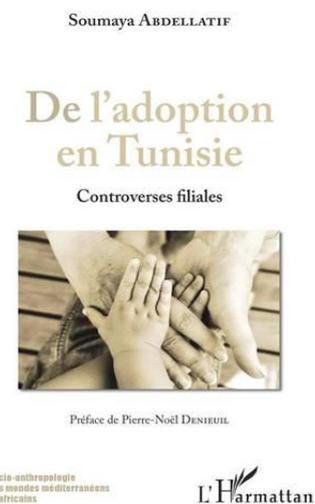S'appuyant sur une enquête de terrain menée depuis 2009 jusqu'à nos jours, cet ouvrage dresse un portrait fin des trajectoires migratoires et politiques des populations chinoises en France, ainsi que des mobilisations antiracistes qui ont émergé dans la jeune génération. En suivant les parcours de Qian, Pierre, Alexandre, Ailing et Lin Chong, le lecteur arpentera tantôt les rayons des épiceries du quartier de Belleville, tantôt les allées des marchés grossistes d'Aubervilliers, en passant par les salons de manucure et les sous-sols qui abritent les ateliers de confection. Dans ces lieux méconnus s'élève la voix d'une nouvelle génération qui refuse de rester silencieuse et se lance dans une aventure politique inédite. Trente ans après la « Marche pour l'égalité et contre le racisme », la contestation de ces jeunes perçus comme « Asiatiques » peut-elle faire évoluer les regards sur les inégalités ethnoraciales au sein de la société française ?

Abdellatif, S. (2021). De l'adoption en Tunisie Controverses filiales. L'Hrmattan. [Adoption in Tunisia Subsidiary controversies - Digital and audio book - Québec Loisirs (quebecloisirsnumerique.com)](#)

This book, written in an anthropological approach, deals with adoption in Tunisia with regard to the bonds of kinship, filiation and family. It examines the societal construction of the Maghreb and Arab societies, then focuses on the prescriptions of Tunisian law and its procedures (administrative, judicial). Valuable examples are provided on the filial behavior of adopted youth, and on the positioning conflicts between the foster family, the family of origin and the interests of the child. The sequelae of abandonment and separation, the modes of transmission between the biological and the social, the work of symbolization of the double kinship and the construction of the affective bonds are discussed in turn.

RECENT ARTICLES/CHAPTERS

Abdellatif S. 2021 "L'adoption au Maghreb, Quid de l'exception tunisienne?" In: Meyer V. et Salvadore . (Dir) Parentalité (s) et après?, Collection Empan, Editions ERES, September. https://www.editions-eres.com/ouvrage/4787/parentalite-s-et-apres (In French)

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PhDs

Mohammad Azizur Rahman .2021. Exploring Refugees' Labour Market Experiences, Economic Success, and Integration Trajectories in Canada: The Implications for Achieving Social Justice. PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies University of Manitoba. (Supervisor: Sean Byrne)

MEMBERS' OTHER ACTIVITIES

Podcast:

Laura Merla. "Sustainable care and the Covid-19: transnational care in the pandemic."
http://circle.group.shef.ac.uk/sustainable-care-covid-19-podcast/

In this podcast, Sustainable Care Co-Investigator **Professor Majella Kilkey** (leads the research team studying *Care 'in' and 'out of' place*) is joined by special guests **Professor Loretta Baldassar** (University of Western Australia) and **Professor Laura Merla** (University of Louvain) to discuss the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on transnational care arrangements. This podcast is part of the Sustainable care & Covid-19 podcast series exploring how care arrangements have been impacted by the ongoing crisis, as part of the ESRC-funded Sustainable Care Research Programme.

Promotions, Fellowships and awards:

Manashi Ray was promoted to Full Professor in the Department of Psychology and Sociology at West Virginia State University.

Adebayo, K. O. was awarded the ARUA/Carnegie Early Career Research Fellowship and will be spending a year at the Centre of Excellence (CoE) for *Migration and Mobility* at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

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CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND OTHER CALLS

International Spring School on EU enlargement, migration dynamics and local policy responses of cities – Bulgarian and Romanian migration in Europe. 14 – 18 February 2022, from 10:00 to 16:00, at the Ruhr university Bochum & online

When Romania and Bulgaria joined the European Union in 2007, it triggered heated discussions in many Western European countries. There were fears of a mass influx of immigrants due to the large disparities in wealth and the limited opportunities on the domestic labour markets. In the public discussions about alleged 'poverty migration' or supposed 'social tourism', the focus is often, at least implicitly, on Roma minorities. possibly fueling Anti-Gypsyism. On the one hand, and in an overall perspective, the migration of Romanians and Bulgarians has proven to be extremely diverse, in terms of countries of arrival, skills, labour market sectors, duration of stay and mobility, transnational orientations etc. On the other hand, there are certain European cities where these migrants are perceived as groups with specific problems and needs for support, who increasingly live spatially segregated in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Educational and labour market opportunities are seen as comparatively low. Access to adequate and affordable housing is difficult while there are experiences of rejection by long-established neighbourhood residents. As a response, these cities developed specific approaches of integration policies guided by their long-term integration practices and orientations, by more recent changes in the overall understanding, and approach to integration, as well as national, regional and European funding lines and cooperations.

This spring school brings together scientists and practitioners from municipalities, NGOs and migrant organisations from selected European cities, part of the *UNIC network* and beyond.

Its focus lies on:

1) the conceptual challenges of analysing transnational migration, integration and local policy making embedded in multilevel governance and

2) the comparison of these different dynamics in several European cities.

More information can be found here:
https://eu2migraruhr.eu/internationale-spring-school-2022/
https://public.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/sl/unic/Pages/View.aspx?CID=159

Contact email for questions: andreea.nagy@rub.de , christian.schramm@rub.de

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Visit the **RC-31 web site**.

SUBMIT YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS!

(Not only announcements – there is also scope for longer pieces in the form of op-eds, etc.)

Send submissions for the next issue to Oshrat Hochman: Oshrat.hochman@gesis.org