

RC32 NEWSLETTER WINTER 2020 VOLUME #11

In this Issue:

i. President's Message

ii. Upcoming RC 32

Sessions

iii. News from Regions

iv. Members' News



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy 2021 to all RC32 members,



The end of this unprecedented year has arrived as we share our final newsletter of 2020. It has been a year of tragedy, isolation, and disruption that none of us could have anticipated. At the end of 2020, there are more than 84,500,000 recorded cases of COVID-19 worldwide and almost 2,000,000 deaths. The pandemic has caused the largest global recession in history, with lockdowns that have made it difficult for many to survive economically. It is also

heightening existing global economic and social inequalities. Lockdowns to counter the spread of the virus have hit the working poor in developing countries the hardest. Many are unable to travel to their places of employment or have lost their jobs. A growing digital divide has challenged many who are unable to access the internet or places where connectivity is not stable. For the least privileged, this has meant educational deprivations and other lost opportunities. For many families that are locked down at home, gender has played an increasing role in the unequal distribution of household and caregiving labor. As a community of global feminist sociologists, we have an important role to play in studying and fighting against these dire consequences and inequalities that are being accelerated by COVID-19. Our thoughts are with all who have lost a loved one or who have loved ones who are ill.

It was with great sadness that we missed the opportunity to meet in person in Brazil this summer for the IV Forum of the International Sociological Association. Fortunately, our programming has moved online to be held February 23-27, 2021. RC32's sub-theme is "Global Inequalities in the 21st Century: Gender, Sexualities, Intimacies, and Intersectionality," and RC32 is hosting 26 regular and joint sessions. The RC32 Board has decided to support our colleagues from Category C countries who are either presenting and/or chairing a session for the Forum to pay for their registration fees to participate. The details for applying will be sent to all members by email. In this newsletter, we provide a list of our current sessions on a range of important sociological topics. I hope that you will be able to join to hear discussion of the dynamic research that our global members will be presenting. I want to take this opportunity to

thank all session organizers for helping to create a vibrant program. This will be a wonderful opportunity to make important connections in new ways that are not necessarily possible when meetings are held in person. I look forward to seeing all of you online in February to discuss our research and how our lives have changed in the new year!

Members of our RC32 community have been leaders in helping their communities fight for feminist principles in these times of terrible loss and inequality. Josephine Beoku-Betts who is the 2020 President of Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) and Past-Chair of RC32 has been working with me and RC32 members Akosua Darkwah and Bandana Purkayastha to gather autoethnographic accounts from people across the globe on the impacts of COVID-19 to be published as an anthology. We are grateful to RC32 members who contributed their stories to this collection and are excited to gather these feminist voices to share their courageous stories of how COVID-19 has impacted them and their communities. We also want to congratulate RC32 member Roberta Villalon who is SWS President Elect and will continue Josephine's leadership in partnering with RC32.

Another goal for the new year is to create a RC32 website where we can share stories and information. The completion of the website is slated before the ISA IV Forum in February. During these times of isolation, the website can act as a hub for building community and sharing our stories and struggles. It can also keep us connected in the spaces between our two annual newsletters.

As Chair of RC32, I look forward to planning RC32's participation in the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology where I hope that we will be able to meet in person in Melbourne, Australia in 2022. There is no doubt that meeting at conferences will be forever changed by this pandemic, and I hope that we can find ways to build on the opportunities that have been presented by these challenging times to connect globally both in person and online. I look forward to working with you to find new ways to make strong feminist connections.

My very best wishes for 2021,

Melanie Heath

RC32 SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Culture, Religion, and Gender Inequality - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Elena CHERNYAK, chernyake@hartwick.edu, Hartwick College, USA Anuppiriya SRISKANDARAJAH, Sriskana@yorku.ca, York University, Canada

Gender inequality is one of the most prevalent forms of inequality across the globe. Among many factors associated with gender inequality and women's experience of oppression and victimization are culture and religion, which are powerful institutions within society that play a major role in shaping gender relations and perpetuating gender inequality. Cultural traditions, practices, and values, as well as religious norms and customs, have significant impacts on the formation of the perception of women in society, their social status, and women's experience overall. Religious texts and cultural traditions are interpreted to justify gender discrimination and reinforce the power of men in society and are used to ensure that men and women conform to their prescribed gender roles and do not challenge the traditional order. Culture and religion thus are ideas and practices that impose power dynamics and gender relations. This session/panel calls for papers that contribute to discussion and exploration of the intersection of culture, religion and gender within the context of inequality. It focuses on the role of culture and religion in gender dynamics, gender relations, women's status, and women's experience. This session/panel aims to address such questions as How gender, religion, and culture are correlated? Does the effect of a specific religion/culture on women's status and experience vary in different settings? How and to what extent cultural and religious norms and practices contribute to gender inequality?

Author Meets Critics - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Melanie HEATH, mheath@mcmaster.ca, McMaster University, Canada This Author Meets Critics Session features books published by RC32 members between January 1, 2018 and March 1, 2020.

Decolonial and Intersectional Feminisms: Weaving Friendships, Alliances and Liberation Politics - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Laura CORRADI, lauracorradi.sociol@gmail.com, Università della Calabria, Italy

This panel seeks to contribute to communication and dialogue among different realities, while addressing commonalities in feminist theory and practice among women of similar margins – embracing the decolonial critique of social sciences, sex/gender studies, queer spaces and the intersectional approach. Some suggested topics include but are not limited to: feminist experiences in First Nation, Indigenous, Aboriginal, Maori, Gypsy, Roma, Traveler, Adivasi, Dalit or in Kurdish realities; decolonial feminist epistemology and research; intersectional political alliances; working in mixed environments, sustainable activists agendas; body, sexuality, and political action; intimacy and friendship; Bi-homo-trans-affectivity; transformations; gender binarism; overcoming dichotomous thinking; Jineologji; academic domestication and liberation research; new decolonial perspectives. Rather than a standard panel presentation, the proposals can include oral narratives, visual or/and performative actions. A written paper is not strictly necessary. The submitted abstract should specify the content, type of engagement and requested technical support.

Social Determinants, Gendered-Health Inequities, and Intersectionality - <u>click to edit</u> Session Organizer(s):

Bula BHADRA, bhadrabula1990@gmail.com, University of Calcutta, India Arvinder A. ANSARI, arvinder2009@gmail.com, Jamia Millia Islamia, India

It is not an exaggeration to say that global health has been on a roller coaster. Periods of optimism have been followed by sharp downswings and backlashes belying the delicate consensus about 'health for all', only to be followed by new panaceas. The application of intersectionality attempts to tease out how intersections of the social determinants of health, those of identity categories (the 'isms' as they are called) and those of geographies, create particular configurations of oppression in their intersections, impacting on health and producing health inequalities. The session will focus on how the poor health of women living in poverty, the social gradient in health within countries, and the marked health inequities

between countries are caused by the unequal distribution of power, income, goods, and services, globally and nationally, the consequent unfairness in the immediate, visible circumstances of women's lives—their access to health care, schools, and education, their conditions of work and leisure, their homes, communities, towns, or cities—and their chances of leading a flourishing life. Papers may address unequal distribution of health-damaging experiences which are not in any sense a "natural" phenomenon but the result of a toxic combination of poor social policies and programmes, unfair economic arrangements, appalling political circumstances by drawing attention to interactive intersectionality along with structural determinants and conditions of daily life constituting the social determinants of health. Papers may also highlight how these are responsible for a major part of gendered-health inequities between and within countries making marginalized women further marginalized.

Global Perspectives on Gender, Family, Labor, and Migration - <u>click to edit</u> Session Organizer(s):

Lejla MUSIC, musiclejlal@gmail.com, Suny Old Westbury University, New York, USA Pallavi BANERJEE, pallavi.banerjee@ucalgary.ca, University of Calgary, Canada

Over the last 40 years feminist and intersectional scholars who study migration have disrupted the masculine and economic-centric framing of migration. Contemporary scholarship on migration is characterized by complex and nuanced analysis of the experiences of immigrants and refugees as they move across the globe both from the global north to the global south and across the global south. The session invites papers that engage with the racialization and feminization of a global division of labor in the context of transnationalism, immigration and the refugee crisis, focused primarily on women's participation and incorporation in the global economy. In the era of late capitalism and mass migrations, women are increasingly hailed as the economic providers in families, the main caregivers, transnational mothers, at the same time implicated as a vulnerable global workforce and a population in need of saving. How do we understand these phenomena? How are groups racialized and gendered to become "ideal" global commodities? What does it mean to be a "skilled" worker in this globally restructuring economy? How do women provide global labor to both formal and informal transnational circuits such as bodywork, health care, domestic work, caregiving, sex work and other forms of intimate labor? The session also calls for research on both paid and unpaid forms of work that

women perform that enable global economies to thrive. The session will therefore explore issues of transnational families, refugee-ness, citizenship, skill, and transnationality.

The "New Right" War on Gender and Intersectional Feminist Responses across the World
- click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Solange SIMOES, ssimoes@emich.edu, Eastern Michigan University, USA Marlise MATOS ALMEIDA, matos.marlise@gmail.com, NEPEM/UFMG, Brazil

This panel will bring together feminist scholars from Latin and North America, Africa, Asia and Europe to address the renewed centrality given to gender by right-wing political/ideological organizations/movements as well as the feminist responses that – across local and national boundaries - have highlighted the continuity of gender discrimination but equally valued the principles of non-discrimination based on race, ethnicity, generation, nationality, class or religion, among others, and the resulting increasingly intersectional and emancipatory feminism. The panel will start by highlighting the Brazilian experience given this year's ISA Forum location in Brazil, and the radical change in gender policies (including policies for women and LGBTQI + segments) that have taken place in Brazil and Latin America in the last decades - from the Pink Tide, in which the states in the region actively engaged in policy initiatives to address gender inequalities (new legislation, program creation, and varying public policy actions) to the arrivals of self-proclaimed New Right governments, that have been leading to serious conservative setbacks and threats on the agenda to promote gender equality. The session will discuss convergences and distinctions in both the "New Right" as well as in the feminist responses in various global locations, and the resulting possibilities of renewed forms of transnational feminist solidarities and alliances. Last, the panel will consider the broader impact of intersectional feminist activism on progressive social movements and political action in opposition to the "New Right" worldwide.

The Intersectional Discrimination of Gender Violence Due to Gender and Race - <u>click to</u>
<u>edit</u>

Session Organizer(s):

Chioma Daisy ONYIGE, chioma2nv76@gmail.com, University of Port Hartcourt, Nigeria

The combined effects of racism and gender discrimination on migrant women, especially women of colour have legitimised the criminalisation of trafficked victims. This phenomenon is known as intersectional discrimination. At the destination countries, most international actors are more interested in stemming illegal immigration, and therefore consider trafficking cases as an illegal migration issue. In other words, the trafficked victim is considered a criminal and as such treated as one. The law and order approach to victims of trafficking from regions that are well known for human smuggling and human trafficking is usually criminalised. It is easier to criminalise victims of trafficking as the government of the destination countries do not have to waste resources for rehabilitation. However, once a trafficked victim is charged with prostitution or any criminal offence such as illegal migration, the victim is forced to plead guilty to the charges rather than reveal information that can be used in prosecuting the human traffickers. They blame the victim and the victim's gender and race. This session is seeking papers that examine the relationship between racism, patriarchy, economic disadvantages and other discriminatory systems that contribute to create layers of inequality, which construct the relative positions of women and men, races and other trafficked groups.

Gender Equality in the Rural Sector: The Ever Persistent Challenge - <u>click to edit</u> Session Organizer(s):

Deepti SHRIVASTAVA, drdeepti2030@gmail.com, Govt. Girls Autonomus College Bhopal, India

Mahesh SHUKLA, msociology@rediffmail.com, Govt. TRS College of Excellence, Rewa (M.P.) India 486001, India

At least 70 percent of the world's very poor people live in rural areas in developing countries (IFAD 2011). Their livelihoods usually depend either directly or indirectly on agriculture, with women providing, on average, more than 40 percent of the agricultural labor force. This female labor ranges from approximately 20 percent in Latin America to up to 50 percent in Eastern Asia and Sub-Sahara Africa (FAO 2011). According to traditional patterns of work distribution within households, in most developing countries women are primarily responsible to meet the basic needs of their families. However, in spite of their important and diverse contributions, women in agriculture and rural areas have less access than men to productive resources. Gender inequality is present in many assets, inputs and services: access to or control over land, financial

services, productive resources, and extension or marketing services. For example, men represent 85 percent of agricultural landholders in Sub-Sahara Africa. Policy makers and legal draftsmen who intend to improve gender balance must take into consideration the crucial role of women in society and in the reduction of gender inequality to improve the quality of social life. The purpose of this session is to discuss the profound consequences of regional and international trends in gender inequality in the rural sector.

Youth, Gender and Place - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Anna-Britt COE, anna-britt.coe@umu.se, Umea University, Sweden
Darcie VANDEGRIFT, darcie.vandegrift@drake.edu, Metropolitan Council, USA
Anuppiriya SRISKANDARAJAH, Sriskana@yorku.ca, York University, Canada

This session seeks to expand knowledge of the role and the relevance place has for young adults across different localities. Place is conceptualized as actively created in communication with other localities, shaped by globalized social and cultural processes, and produced through social relations based on gender, race and class (Massey 1994). In youth studies, young adults are assumed to live in urban settings and these places are seldom theorized, what Farrugia (2014) refers to as the field's metrocentric nature. The taken-for granted urban setting inhibits theorizing of how cities create a context for youth identity and experience. Equally important, it obscures place-based theorization of rural young adults. Increasingly, the concept of place is being used to explore how rural young adults define themselves and develop identities in relation to their localities (Cuervo and Wyn 2017, Farrugia et al. 2014, Svensson 2006, 2017). This session seeks to engage with this emerging scholarship by bringing into the conversation gender as it intersects with other power relations. Papers will consider the role and relevance of place and gender (intersectionality) in young adults' lives as empirical questions. What does place mean for young adults and how are they involved in creating place? How does gender shape their understandings and actions around place? How do place and gender enhance our understanding of the other three main themes of this forum: democracy, inequalities and the environment?

Women, Migration, and Work - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Ignazia BARTHOLINI, ignazia.bartholini@unipa.it, University of Palermo, Italy Joanna HADJICOSTANDI-ANANG, hadjicostandi_j@utpb.edu, University of Texas of the Permian Basin, USA

The migration of women has always been central to international migration. In the past few decades, women migrants have become increasingly part of flows of migrant workers, migrating alone to become the principal wage earners for their families. Most move voluntarily but many are also forced migrants leaving their countries in order to flee conflict, persecution, environmental degradation, natural disasters or other situations that affect their security, livelihood or habitat. This session considers the intersections of gender, migration, and work.

Past-President's Special Session: Global Inequalities of Gender, Race, Class, Intimate

Citizenship, and Disability - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Melanie HEATH, mheath@mcmaster.ca, McMaster University, Canada

This past-president's special session for RC32: Women, Gender, and Society, and RC05: Racism, Nationalism, Indigeneity, and Ethnicity pays honor to the memory of Ann Denis (1945-2019), who was an active member and served as Vice-President of RC32 from 1998 to 2006 and as President of RC05 from 2010-2014. Her research and publications focused on power relations within and between societies, particularly on the intersections of gender, ethnicity/race, and class with work, and on intersectionality within feminisms. In line with the RC32 sub-theme: "Global Inequalities in the 21st Century: Gender, Sexualities, Intimacies, and Intersectionality," the session focuses on how global challenges that societies face today are fundamentally tied to inequalities of gender, race, class, intimate citizenship, and disability.

Gender, Violence and Migration - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Evangelia TASTSOGLOU, evie.tastsoglou@smu.ca, Saint Mary's University, Canada Jane FREEDMAN, jane.freedman@cnrs.fr, Université Paris 8, France

Gender-based and intersectional violence, defined in structural and / or interpersonal terms, is often part of the migration process and experience. In structural terms it may be the outcome of absence, "neutrality", misinterpretation or inadequate enforcement of law, and of state / political and social / community practices at local, national and international levels. Such legal and socio-political contexts create enabling environments or even directly translate into gender -based violence at the interpersonal level. Violence may be the cause, aggravating factor or consequence of migration (and in particular displacement / forced migration), enabled by or contributing to precarious statuses; or it may emerge or get reinforced post migration and during the settlement process. Violence is fundamentally gendered, either in its root origins, forms or consequences and often in terms of all of these dimensions. It is also understood as intersectional, i.e. affecting differently and being impacted by multiple, interacting social memberships and identities beyond gender. This session invites empirical analyses and theoretical reflections of diverse forms of violence in various international contexts.

Decolonizing Gender: Gender Diversity from a Transnational Perspective - <u>click to edit</u> Session Organizer(s):

Sofia ABOIM, sofia.aboim@ics.ul.pt, University of Lisbon,Institute of Social Sciences, Portugal Pedro VASCONCELOS, pedro.vasconcelos@iscte.pt, ISCTE-IUL University Institute of Lisbon, Portugal

Over the past few decades, gender and citizenship have become intertwined as a consequence of struggles aimed at the redefinition of the rights of women and LGBTQ+ individuals. These movements, a central feature of the social and political dynamics initiated in the 20th century, rose to a peak when the notion of a gendered self-conforming to binary categories of femininity and masculinity started to be challenged. Against this backdrop, the division between the West and the "rest" became important, with the rise of contrasting imaginaries of transgender communities outside the West, which are either viewed as havens of traditional acceptance – normally corrupted by Western colonial powers and the gender schemes of modernity – or depicted as places of infringement of basic human rights. The confrontation between the global North and the global South permeates the notions and possibilities for gender diversity itself. While pre-colonial understandings often feed Western imageries, the West continues to play a

key role in the current struggles in favour of gender diversity. Are these present-day movements offering redemption or re-colonization? Are these movements feeding unreal narratives of past and present that reinstate the opposition between tradition and modernity? Continuing the discussion started at the ISA Congress in Toronto (2018), this call for papers intends to foster reflection on how transnational movements for gender diversity might operate through the mobilization of paradoxical categories, which do not always provide the basis for the decolonization of gender and the visibility of categories and lives in non-Western geographies.

Gender Violence and Experiences of Discrimination - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Marlise MATOS ALMEIDA, matos.marlise@gmail.com, NEPEM/UFMG, Brazil Solange SIMOES, ssimoes@emich.edu, Eastern Michigan University, USA

This session will examine different approaches to gender violence and sexual harassment.

Gender, Language, and Politics - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Solange SIMOES, ssimoes@emich.edu, Eastern Michigan University, USA Marlise MATOS ALMEIDA, matos.marlise@gmail.com, NEPEM/UFMG, Brazil

The stereotype that it is right and natural for men to seek and hold political power, whereas it is an exception or strange for women to do so, has been integral to shaping gender inequality. This session brings together papers that broadly examine how women's inequality is fueled by politics and language.

Sexuality, Inequality, and Rights - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Melanie HEATH, mheath@mcmaster.ca, McMaster University, Canada
In recent decades, intersections of sexuality and social inequality are increasingly a major focus of concern, both for research that focuses on the ways in which forms of inequality affect the constitution of diverse expressions of sexuality, and that which seeks to influence positive forms of social change. This session will focus on the intersections of sexuality, inequality, and rights.

Neoliberalism, Inequalities, and the Gendered Everyday - <u>click to edit</u>

Session Organizer(s):

Ayse SAKTANBER, sakta@metu.edu.tr, Middle East Technical University, Turkey Cenk OZBAY, ozbay@sabanciuniv.edu, Sabancı University, Turkey

In the past decades, the process of neoliberalization has created new forms of social inequality and has transformed each and every aspect of our personal lives and social structures, including the state, law, the market, occupations, family, sexuality, education, health, cities, emotions, and forms of intimacies. These emergent forms of inequality are gendered and gendering. Gender relations and embodied experiences tend to transmogrify as a result of complex processes like commercialization, privatization, commodification, and financialization of culture, sociabilities, and subjectivities. Neoliberalism provides a framework to understand these planetary experiments and everyday transformations as well as local and global scales of resistance. This panel aims to integrate discussions on social inequalities and the gendered (and sexual) everyday geographies, and expand our theoretical horizons on the existing inequalities—created or intensified by neoliberalism—at the intersection of public culture, space, identities, and subjective experiences. We are particularly interested in bringing together papers that would address the cultural politics of gendered lives as embedded in spaces, temporalities, and relations under transformation. In which ways can the discourse of neoliberal subjectivity be meaningful and useful to illustrate the capacity, complicity, and resistance people demonstrate navigating their lives? How can intersectionality offer new ways to explore actually existing and experienced realities of a neoliberal (or a post-neoliberal) setting of inequalities? What is the particular role that gender sexuality play in confrontations with neoliberal logics, discourses, and institutions of, for example, health, education, urban space, work, or mass culture?

Women and Leadership - <u>click to edit</u>

Session Organizer(s):

Kristy KELLY, kek72@drexel.edu, Columbia University | Drexel University, USA Today, women are well represented in the workplace; however, they do not predominantly occupy leadership positions. A broad range of sociological scholarship has examined the reasons why women are not represented as leaders in organizations and in positions of power. The

disproportionately low number of women leaders is due to barriers that keep them from rising in organizations, including lack of opportunity for promotion, male dominance in organizations, and gender discrimination. These factors systematically exclude women from upper-level management and leader positions. This panel offers recent global research on women and leadership.

Cadences of Everyday Gendered Migrant Lives - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Bandana PURKAYASTHA, Bandana.Purkayastha@uconn.edu, University of Connecticut, USA Laura OSO CASAS, laura.oso@udc.es, Universidade da Coruña, Spain Phoebe Zoe Maria SANCHEZ, pusanchezl@up.edu.ph, University of the Philippines Cebu, Philippines

This session seeks to facilitate a conversation about the experiences of economic migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, and other groups of migrants. Against a global backdrop of rapidly changing structures that shape migrants lives, this session seeks to understand structures from everyday life experiences of migrants. The emphasis is on understanding global to local intersectional structures that shape everyday life prospects and challenges of migrants. We particularly welcome papers that focus on migrants whose lives are not discussed as often-internal migrants, seasonal migrants, temporary migrants, and trafficked persons.

Gendered Resistances in Postcolonial and Transnational Context - <u>click to edit</u> Session Organizer(s):

Josephine BEOKU-BETTS, beokubet@fau.edu, Florida Atlantic University, USA Manisha DESAI, manisha.desai@uconn.edu, University of Connecticut, USA

Southern Theory (Connell 2012) was Connell's call to engage the theoretical labor of scholars and activists not located in the global North or elite institutions in the Global South. Later, she made a similar call (Connell 2014, 2015) to democratize the global structure of feminist theory by disrupting the hegemony of Northern theory and the political economy of knowledge production. She emphasized the importance of creating spaces for sustainable processes of mutual learning, interactive and inclusive intellectual thinking on new and ongoing theoretical

agendas. This session invites feminist scholarship on the gendered resistances that are possible within particular geopolitical spaces, the way these are enacted locally and transnationally, and within a postcolonial world order.

Interrogating Sexualities and Intimacies: The Liberatory and Oppressive Politics of the 21st

Century. - <u>click to edit</u>

Session Organizer(s):

Shweta Majumdar ADUR, shweta.uconn@gmail.com, California State University-Los Angeles, USA

The 21st century has been an era of paradigmatic yet paradoxical shifts: on the one hand the global economy has intensified; on the other, material inequalities have become exacerbated. Whereas we have witnessed the escalation of progressive movements, transformative politics and transnational justice networks, the world has also grappled with growing conservatism, the power of reactionary politics and the violence of dominant nationalism(s). Against this background, this session invites nuanced intersectional analyses that interrogate the myriad ways in which intimacies, sexual discourses, identities, practices, and subjectivities are deeply embedded and implicated in the hegemonies and counter-hegemonies of the 21st century, both within and across national context. Papers may include, but are not limited to exploring how material inequalities/insecurities shape sexual subjectivity and intimacies and vice versa; gendered and sexualized dimensions of precarity and climate change; the impact of contemporary democratic and anti-democratic movements on the sexual rights' activism around the world, queer and LGBTQI organizing in the 21st century; queer mobility; sexuality and the politics of migration; gendered and sexual violence etc.

Gender and Professions - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Empar AGUADO, Teresa.Empar.Aguado@uv.es, Universitat de València, Spain Elisa GARCÍA, Elisagmingo@gmail.com, Centro Universitario Villanueva, Spain Marta IBAÑEZ, Mibanez@uniovi.es, University of Oviedo, Spain Occupational segregation is a universal reality that occurs worldwide. It implies the under-representation or, over-representation, of women and men respectively, in jobs considered male-

dominated and female-dominated. We regard with concern that in the second decade of 21st century, despite the legislative frameworks of most countries in the World, labor statistics continue to confirm the existence of 'women's' and 'men's' jobs.

Studying why occupational segregation persists is relevant, since it produces unequal effects in the citizenship. The main consequence of the gender-divide is that workers in male-dominated jobs perceive higher salaries, perpetuating thus the reproduction of the gender wage gap and the unequal working conditions. In addition, occupations with over-representation of men have, on average, greater social recognition and more opportunities for promotion.

Occupational segregation should capture the attention of public employment policies because it is not improving; in fact, in come contexts, the occupational segregation index has increased. We would like to invite scholars from around the world who are currently developing casestudy based research, statistical analysis and other sorts of research on the following topics related to women in male-dominated professions: i) access barriers and gendered closure mechanisms, ii) career abandonment; iii) coping mechanisms; iv) family-work-life balance; v) pregnancy and maternity; vi) sexual harassment; vii) structural effects in relation to gender segregation (tokenism); and, viii) men in female-dominated jobs. This session is intended to be a space for discussion and dissemination of research worldwide that share this object of study.

Intersectional Approaches to Gender, Diversities and Inequalities Regarding the MENA

Region - <u>click to edit</u>

Session Organizer(s):

Nilay CABUK KAYA, cabukkaya@gmail.com, University of Ankara, Turkey
Dilek CINDOGLU, dilekcindoglu@gmail.com, Izmir Institute of Technology, Turkey
Masoumeh VELAYATI, m.velayati@warwick.ac.uk, University of Warwick, United Kingdom
This session invites scholars to address issues related to structural inequalities stemming from
gendered and ethnic/racial inequalities and social class in an intersectional approach. Paper
proposals can discuss research outputs on these inequalities by discussing the ways in which
multiple systems of inequalities affect opportunities and rewards to particular groups and how
political-economic structures in return may generate cultural/social systems of inequality.
Refugees and migration, gendered violence, sexualities, and religion are all topics of great

importance for contemporary gender research in MENA region societies, such as Turkey, Jordan, Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Egypt, Lebanon, and Tunisia, etc.

RC32 Business Meeting

Global Gender Occupational Inequality - <u>click to edit</u>

Session Organizer(s):

Melanie HEATH, mheath@mcmaster.ca, McMaster University, Canada Gender inequality in organizations is a globally complex phenomenon that is seen in organizational structures, processes, and practices. This session examines these structures and processes.

Gender Inequality: Home and Work - click to edit

Session Organizer(s):

Melanie HEATH, mheath@mcmaster.ca, McMaster University, Canada Sociological research has provided insights into the ways that the permeability between family and work produces work-family conflict for heterosexual, monogamous couples. This session examines the global implications of the unequal division of household and caregiving labor, and how women's employment that is often informal and precarious impacts on women's lives.

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS:

CANADA

Critical Diasporic South Asian Feminisms: Challenges and Possibilities is an interdisciplinary two-day symposium workshop event aimed at developing a critical understanding of 'South Asianness' across varying disciplines (i.e., sociology, political science, media studies, humanities, women, queer, and gender studies, and social work); and across social, political, religious, cultural, and historical realms, framed within anti-racist, feminist, and social justice frameworks. It is a collaborative project by Canadian University professors Maryam Khan (Wilfred Laurier University), Jane Ku (University of Windsor) and Amina Jamal(Ryerson University) who are interested in expanding South Asian feminist responses to the rise of religio-militaristic nationalisms, patriarchal and heteronormative ideas about gender and culture and intensifying discourses of cultural/ethnic purity in South Asia and Canada. The Project has been awarded funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada (SSHRC). This collaborative

symposium, to be held in June 2021, at Ryerson University, Ontario, will examine and interrogate neoliberal constructions of 'South Asianness' and explore academic, social and political practices that may interrupt and destabilize their masculinist, heteronormative and militaristic underpinnings. The researches align this project with the ongoing struggles and organizing by critical, anti-racist feminist, labor and queer academics and activists affiliated with South Asian identities in Canada where South Asians make up the second largest visible minority group in Canada (1,567,400 or 4.8% of total population) (Statistics Canada, 2011).

The proposed symposium will offer a unique opportunity to bring together feminist academic and community-based researchers from varying levels (established and emerging scholars, community activists), students, and disciplines from across Canada. This project builds on discussions generated by a roundtable organized by the researchers at Congress 2019 as part of Feminist Sociology within the Canadian Sociological Association (CSA). The session drew a sizeable group of critical feminist and anti-racist scholars and activists with diverse affiliations and investments in South Asian identity and politics. Representing heterogeneous 'South Asia' oriented feminisms in Canada, they challenged the hegemonic forms and expressions of South Asianness. They expressed the desire to collaborate around a South Asian feminist ethos—beyond identity and nation-state politics—that focuses on decolonization, privileges intersectionality, and interrogates settler colonialism. Although sparse, recent interventions by queer, postcolonial and transnational, genealogically diverse, hybridized, multi-faith, feminist scholars and activists have drawn attention to the ways in which an unproblematized "South Asian" identity in diasporic situations can reproduce nationalism, patriarchy, class, oppressive forms of religion, culture and language and bolster mythical histories of origin and return.

Lynn McDonald, Professor Emerita, the University of Guelph states:

The year 2020 marks the Bicentenary of Nightingale's birth, named the Year of the Nurse and Midwife by the World Health Organization. Nightingale, a social scientist and major founder of nursing, has always had critics and "revisionists," but two articles published this year have gone so far as to accuse her of racism, particularly against Indigenous peoples. Her crime? She did a quantitative study that exposed the high rates of disease and death among aboriginal peoples, including those in Canadian residential and day schools—deploring them and seeking redress (Nightingale, 1863) The New Zealand journal that published this first attack (Brookes and Nuku, 2020), published my rebuttal (McDonald, 2020). The next article available both in

English and French, is by the president of the Quebec Nurses' Association: "The Racist Lady with the Lamp" (Stake-Doucet (2020). Its accusations appear to be supported by endnotes, but which cite articles with similar accusations, also without evidence. Anyone who reads Nightingale's paper would see that she found the rates of death of Indigenous children, albeit with poor data, to be roughly double those of English children of the same ages. The paper was read at a meeting of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science, got considerable newspaper coverage (including Australian and New Zealand as well as British). So, how does someone who wants to bring down rates of disease and death be read as if she wanted to raise them? presumably to 100% if "genocide" is the aim. How does one deal with such extreme errors of interpretation? The author is a "student," albeit a fourth-year doctoral candidate, with an MSc, and I am a professor emerita with 27 books out (only 20 of them on Nightingale!).

McDonald, Lynn. "Defending Florence Nightingale's Reputation." Kai Tiaki Nursing New Zealand. 26,4 (May 2020): 34-35 https://issuu.com/kaitiaki/docs/kai tiaki may 2020.

Stake-Doucet, Natalie. "The Racist Lady with the Lamp." Nursing Clio 5November 2020.

Nursing Clio The Racist Lady with the Lamp. Translated by Valerie Simard.

: http://www.revue-ouvrage.org/dame-raciste-lanterne/

Pat Armstrong Distinguished Research Professor, York University along with Hugh Armstrong contributed a chapter in the book: Vulnerable: The Law, Policy and Ethics of COVID-19. The chapter is titled: Privatization and Covid-19. A Deadly Combination for Nursing Homes. It makes it clear, that nursing homes are primarily care for women by women, many of whom are racialized and/or new to the country, which helps explain the low value attached to the women and the failure to recognize the skills involved. The entire book confronts the vulnerabilities that have been revealed by the pandemic and its consequences. It examines vulnerabilities for people who have been harmed or will be harmed by the virus directly and those harmed by measures taken to slow its relentless march; vulnerabilities exposed in our institutions, governance, and legal structures; and vulnerabilities in other countries and at the global level where persistent injustices affect us all. COVID-19 has forced us to not only reflect on how we govern and how we set policy priorities, but also to ensure that pandemic preparedness, precautions, and recovery include all individuals, not just some. The book was published in 2020. Pat Armstrong of York University

also published along with her co-author Marcy Cohen a policy paper titled: A Higher Standard Setting federal standards in long-term care and continuing care. It was brought out by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives It sets out national standards for long-term care and for a labour force to provide care, locating these within a larger strategy for community care. It was funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada Major Collaborative Research Initiative. This was published in November 2020.

EUROPE

Editor's note: The following news from the region lists a number of events, activities listed in bulleted format.

- ◆ UN Women Multi-stakeholder Hearing: Accelerating the Realization of Gender Equality and the Empowerment of all Women and Girls. Interactive panel discussion: Women's and girls' voices, participation and leadership. 21 July 2020. Including the Panel, How can men play a proactive role in supporting women's leadership and tackling gender stereotypes and negative social norms? http://webtv.un.org/watch/part-1-multi-stakeholder-hearing-accelerating-the-realization-of-gender-equality-and-the-empowerment-of-all-women-and-girls/6173853399001/
- ♦ Varieties of Gender Regimes Webinar. Thursday 24th September 2020: This event was hosted by Sylvia Walby at the <u>Violence and Society Centre</u>, City, University of London, UK, and co-organised with Karen Shire at the <u>Essen College for Gender Research</u>, University Duisburg-Essen, Germany. The event discussed the Special Section of *Social Politics* on 'Varieties of Gender Regimes' published in August 2020. What are the varieties of gender regime? This event focused on Walby's varieties of gender regimes domestic and public regimes; and, within the public, both neoliberal and social democratic varieties and pathways to alternative forms. Is this model sufficient to encompass the turn to less progressive forms and multiple global regions or are further varieties needed? At stake here is the distinction between modern and premodern, public and domestic, the meaning of conservative, the concept of the family, and the theorisation of violence. The authors introduced their papers, followed by two discussants, and then opened to question and answer:
 - Karen Shire (University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany) and Sylvia Walby (City, University of London, UK): Advances in Theorizing Varieties of Gender Regimes.

- Sylvia Walby (City, University of London, UK): Varieties of Gender Regimes.
- Karen Shire (University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany) and Kumiko Nemoto (Kyoto University of Foreign Studies, Japan): The Origins and Transformations of Conservative Gender Regimes in Germany and Japan.
- Valentine M. Moghadam (Northeastern University, US): Gender Regimes in the Middle East and North Africa: The Power of Feminist Movements.
- Emanuela Lombardo (Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain) and Alba Alonso (Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Spain): Gender regime change in decentralized states: the case of Spain.
- Ece Kocabicak (Open University, UK): Why property matters? New varieties of domestic patriarchy in Turkey.
- Jeff Hearn (Örebro University, Sweden; University of Huddersfield, UK), Sofia Strid (Örebro University, Sweden), Anne Laure Humbert (Oxford Brookes University, UK), Dag Balkmar (Örebro University, Sweden) and Marine Delaunay (Centre Emile Durkheim): From Gender Regimes to Violence Regimes: Re-thinking the Position of Violence.

Moderator: Heidi Gottfried (Wayne State University, USA); Discussants: Mieke Verloo (Radboud University, Netherlands) and Roberta Guerrina (University of Bristol, UK). The event can be watched at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qxhi9 CMg6M&feature=youtu.be&ab_channel=City%2CUniversityofLondon

- ♦ Videos and ppts: 5th International Conference on Men and Equal Opportunities: Men Who Care, Ministry of Social Affairs, Tallinn, 3-4 September 2020 https://www.sm.ee/et/uritused/5th-international-conference-men-and-equal-opportunities-men-who-care; and J. Hearn Rapporteur Conference Report https://www.sm.ee/sites/default/files/5th icmeo report jeff hearn.pdf
- ◆ Liisa Husu is a member of the advisory group of GENIE, the 10-year gender equality initiative of the Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden, see https://www.chalmers.se/en/about-chalmers/chalmers-for-a-sustainable-future/initiative-for-excellence/

◆ Liisa Husu was interviewed by BBC World News on November 24, 2020 on women and gender in Finnish politics, in connection of the BBC coverage and document on the women-led Finnish government, as part of the the 100 Women series: https://www.bbc.com/news/world-48623037

• RINGS: International Research Network of Institutions of Advanced Gender Studies.



Illustration: http://ringsgender.org/rings

RINGS: International <u>Research</u> Association of <u>Institutions</u> of Advanced <u>Gender Studies</u> was founded at Örebro University, Sweden, in 2014, as an international association with the aim of bringing together research institutions, currently in *Africa*, *the Americas*,

Australasia and Europe, engaged in gender and feminist research and women's studies on a global basis. It has over 70 member institutions. RC32 member, Jeff Hearn (Gender Studies, Örebro University; University of Huddersfield, UK; Hanken School of Economics, Finland) and Tamara Shefer (Department of Women's and Gender Studies, University of Western Cape, -South Africa) have co-chaired the Executive Committee for 2016-2020, and now 2020-2022 the Co-Chairs are Annette von Alemann (Sociology, Universities of Duisburg Essen and Paderborn, Germany) and Deevia Bhana (Gender and Childhood Sexuality, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa), with representatives also from Centre for Gender and Science, Prague, Czech Republic; Centre for Gender, Culture and Social Processes, Delhi University, India; EDDA and UNU-GEST, University of Iceland, Iceland; Fay Gale Centre, University of Adelaide, Australia; Graduate Gender Programme/Netherlands Research School, Utrecht University, the Netherlands; Gender Studies, CEU/CEUPU, Austria/Hungary; and Tallinn University, Estonia. For more information, see http://ringsgender.org/rings

◆ Furthermore, the Centre for Violence Studies (CVS), has been established at Örebro University, Sweden, with 3 million SEK funding. For information, contact sofia.strid@oru.se

- ♦ The European Conference on Politics and Gender (ECPG) in Ljubljana 2021 is now postponed to 2022 it will have various sections relevant to RC32.
- ♦ A New EU Project: Gender-based violence and institutional responses: Building a knowledge base and operational tools to make universities and research organisations safe (UniSAFE). UniSAFE is a nine-partner EU funded project that aims to produce better knowledge on gender-based violence (GBV) in research performing and funding organisations, and to translate this knowledge into operational tools for higher education, research organisations and policymakers. It examines the mechanisms of GBV, its social determinants, antecedents and consequences, by developing *an ambitious multi-level research design and holistic 7P research model*, covering Prevalence, Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, Provision of services, Partnerships and Policy. The state-of-the-art 7P model will be used to collect comprehensive data, analyse their relations, synthesise and compare qualitative and quantitative evidence gathered at three levels:
 - Prevalence and impacts of GBV are analysed via data gathered by a survey sampling 45 research organisations and by a Europe-wide survey of mobile researchers.
 - Organisational responses and infrastructure are analysed via data gathered by in-depth case studies, interviews, and a strategic mapping in of research organisations in 15 EU member states (meso level).
 - Legal and policy frameworks are analysed via extensive mapping by national experts in EU27 and 3 Associated States (macro level).

The 3-year project will start in February 2021 and supports the European Commission's objective of ending GBV in Europe by contributing to the reduction and eventual eradication of gender-based violence in European higher education.

Partners:



















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Project Manager: Antti Tahvanainen, atahvanainen@esf.org, European Science Foundation



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101006261

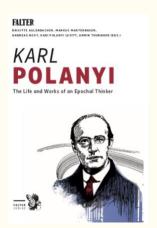
MEMBERS' NEWS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & CELEBRATIONS:

Dr. Chien-Juh Gu (Department of Sociology. Western Michigan University) reports that their work, "Bargaining with Confucian Patriarchy: Money, Culture, and Gender Division of Labor in Taiwanese Immigrant Families," published in Qualitative Sociology, has been selected as a finalist for the 2020 Rosabeth Moss Kanter International Award for Research Excellence in Work and Family. Dr Gu writes, "This year, a committee of over 70 leading scholars selected 5 finalists from over 2,500 articles published in 83 leading journals from around the world that demonstrate excellence in workfamily research. My article is one of the five finalists in 2020". The link to the article is below, https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11133-019-09427-x

BOOKS AUTHORED BY RC32 MEMBERS:

Aulenbacher, B., Marterbauer, M., Novy, A., Polanyi Levitt, K. & Damp; Thurnher, A. (eds.), 2020.. *Karl Polanyi. The Life and Works of an Epochal Thinker*. Vienna: Falter.



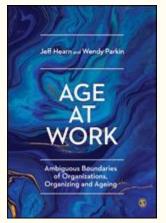
This book serves as an introduction to The Great Transformation, Polanyi's magnum opus and one of the most important works of the 20th century. It helps us to understand the background to Karl Polanyi's intellectual career, sketches the lives of his family members, describes the milieus of Budapest, Vienna, London and New York, which were such informative influences in his life, and sheds light on his relationship with contemporaries such as Keynes, Mises and Hayek. Renowned Polanyi researchers, including, most notably his daughter Kari Polanyi Levitt,

elucidate Polanyian concepts such as 'fictitious commodities' and apply his analysis to an era when everything seems to be subjected to the mechanics of the market. It shows how we can read Polanyi for today and investigate contemporary capitalism including developments in the fields of care, ecology, democracy and many more. The book is available for download at,

http://www.karlpolanyisociety.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Polyani_Buch_engl_E-Paper_lo.pdf

Baianstovu, R.Í., Strid, S., Särnstedt Gramnaes, E., Cinthio, H. and Enelo, J. 2019. Heder och samhälle: Det hedersrelaterade våldets och förtryckets uttryck och samhällets utmaningar. Örebro: Örebro University Press.

Hearn, Jeff and Parkin, Wendy. 2020. *Age at Work: The Ambiguous Boundaries of Organizations, Organizing and Ageing*, Sage, London: https://uk.sagepub.com/engb/eur/age-at-work/book258241



Age at Work explores the myriad ways in which 'age' is at 'work' across society, organizations and workplaces, with special focus on organizations, their boundaries, and marginalizing processes around age and ageism in and across these spaces. The book examines:

- how society operates in and through age, and how this informs the very existence of organizations;
- age-organization regimes, age-organization boundaries, and the relationship between organizations and death, and post-death;
- the importance of memory, forgetting and rememorizing in re-thinking the authors' and others' earlier work, including that on gender and sexuality;
- tensions between seeing age in terms of later life and seeing age as pervasive social relations; and
- end with reflections on the implications of COVID-19 for organizations and organizing.

The Routledge Advances in Feminist Studies and Intersectionality book series, for which Jeff Hearn and Nina Lykke are co-managing editors, supported with the wider editorial group of Laura Corradi, Kathy Davis, Anna G. Jónasdóttir, Elżbieta H. Oleksy, Andrea Peto, Ann Phoenix, and Chandra Talpade Mohanty (https://www.routledge.com/Routledge-Advances-in-Feminist-Studies-and-Intersectionality/book-series/RAIFSAI?pg=1&so=pubdate&pp=12&view=list&pd=published,forthcoming) now has over 35 titles. Recent publications in the Series in 2020 are:

• Katrine Smiet Sojourner Truth and Intersectionality: Travelling Truths in Feminist Scholarship, 2020.

- Samraghni Bonnerjee (ed.) Subaltern Women's Narratives: Strident Voices, Dissenting Bodies, 2020.
- Redi Koobak, Madina Tlostanova and Suruchi Thapar-Björkert (eds.) Postcolonial and Postsocialist Dialogues: Intersections, Opacities, Challenges in Feminist Theorizing and Practice, 2021.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS BY RC32 MEMBERS:

Axelsson, Tobias and Strid, Sofia. 2020. "Minority Migrant Men's Attitudes toward Female Genital Mutilation: Developing Strategies to Engage Men." *Health Care for Women International* 41(6):709-26. https://doi.org/10.1080/07399332.2019.1687707

Aulenbacher, B., Ezzeddine, P., Gábriel, D., Leiblfinger, M., Milankovics, K., Prieler, V. 2020. Facing COVID-19: Live-in Care in Central Europe. Global Dialogue - Magazine of the International Sociological Association 10(3), 23-24.

Aulenbacher, B., Leiblfinger, M., Prieler, V. 2020. The Promise of Decent Care and the Problem of Poor Working Conditions: Double Movements Around Live-In Care in Austria. socialpolicy.ch – Journal of the Division of Sociology, Social Policy, Social Work, University of Fribourg 2, Article 2.5.

Hearn, Jeff, Strid, Sofia, Humbert, Anne Laure, Balkmar, Dag and Delaunay, Marine. 2020. "From Gender Regimes to Violence Regimes: Re-thinking the Position of Violence." Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State and Society 2020. https://doi.org/10.1093/sp/jxaa022

Hearn, Jeff. 2020 "Putting Men and Masculinities into the Bigger Picture: A Partial Account after a Conference and a Half." *Masculinities: A Journal of Culture and Society* 13(Spring):134-51. http://www.masculinitiesjournal.org/pdf/40211-Jeff%20Hearn%20-%20Putting%20Men%20and%20Masculinities%20into%20the%20Bigger%20Picture.pdf

Hearn, Jeff. 2020. "Men and Masculinities in Academe: Extending Gender-sensitive Perspectives, Processes, Policies and Practices." Pp. 97-109 in *The Gender-Sensitive University: A Contradiction in*

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BLOGS OF INTEREST SUBMITTED BY RC32 MEMBERS:

Hearn, Jeff. 'Symposium: Social World and Pandemic: Questions on COVID-19', with S. Patel, R. Abramovay, M. Alario Ennes and B. Sorj, Simpósio 5 | Mundo Social e Pandemia, edited by A. Bittencourt and M. Hoelz, Sociologia & Antropologia and Blog da Biblioteca Virtual do Pensamento Social, Brazilian Society of Sociology, May 2020.

https://blogbvps.wordpress.com/2020/05/12/symposium-social-world-and-pandemic/; https://blogbvps.wordpress.com/2020/05/26/simposio-5-mundo-social-e-pandemia/; https://blogbvps.files.wordpress.com/2020/05/jeff-hearn.pdf

Collinson, David and Hearn, Jeff. "Gendering Leadership in Times of COVID: The Case of the 'Strong Man'". Leadership for the Greater Good: Reflections on Today's Challenges from Around the Globe, International Leadership Association Blog, 15 October 2020. http://ilanet.org/reflections/collinsonhearn.html

Collinson, David and Hearn, Jeff. "Trump v. Biden: A duel of contrasting masculinities." The Conversation, 23 October 2020. https://theconversation.com/trump-v-biden-a-duel-of-contrasting-masculinities-148300

Dear RC32 Members and readers of this newsletter,

I wish you all a very happy 2021 and hope that the beginning of the year finds you in renewed spirits! If I haven't already done so in personal emails to you, I thank each and every one of you for your contributions and for making this newsletter possible year after year. Please also stay tuned for the call for our summer newsletter for 2021. In the meantime, please take care, stay well and stay safe!

From you newsletter editor – Shweta Majumdar Adur, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology California State University, Los Angeles.