

Message From the President

Dear RC46 Members,

In the first newsletter of 2025, I expressed the hope that the year ahead would be gentler and brighter. Yet, as we now know, the challenges continued—demanding resilience, focus, and no small amount of perseverance from all of us. As we approach the holiday season, I hope you will find time to rest, reconnect with those closest to you, and reflect on a year that has been both demanding and rewarding.

Looking back, 2025 has certainly been eventful for RC46. Our sessions at the ISA Forum in Rabat were a resounding success, bringing together scholars from around the world in thoughtful discussions on the relevance and growing impact of clinical sociology. Our membership has remained steady at around 140 members — a positive indicator of our collective strength. As you will have seen from our newsletters, RC46 members continue to distinguish themselves through prolific research, publications, and professional contributions. Before everyone takes a well-deserved break, I would like to bring a few important matters to your attention.

Membership Matters

Please ensure that your ISA and RC46 memberships are current. Because membership is renewed only once every four years, it can easily slip from one's mind. Maintaining more than 100 members is essential: it directly influences the number of sessions we are allocated at ISA events and our eligibility for organisational funding. Our next milestone is 150 members, and reaching that threshold would significantly strengthen RC46's position within the ISA.

Each January, the ISA removes members whose ISA or RC46 membership has lapsed during the previous year. At present, the ISA membership of 19 of our colleagues expires at the end of December 2025, and three have already lapsed. In addition, the RC46 membership of 18 colleagues will expire at the end of 2025.

You can check and renew your membership here:

[Individual Membership](#)

I would also be grateful if you could encourage interested colleagues, especially early-career researchers, to join RC46. Growing our community strengthens our voice, our reach, and the opportunities we can offer.

Publish with Us

The second 2025 issue of the **Clinical Sociology Review** is now available: [Clinical Sociology Review](#). I encourage you to read and share the articles in this issue, as well as those in previous issues.

We warmly invite submissions for future issues of the journal. We welcome empirical work, historical analyses, methodological reflections, and practice-oriented contributions. Submission guidelines and the link to submit can be found here: <https://journals.uj.ac.za/index.php/csr/about/submissions>

Interim RC46 Conference

We hope to host an RC46 interim conference in 2026 and would like to align it with a local conference in a member's country. If your institution or national body may be able to host, please contact me — I would be delighted to explore possibilities with you.

Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be published in March 2026. Please send news, publications, awards, appointments, and conference announcements to our Secretary, Prof Johanna Zulueta, at isa-rc46@isa-sociology.org. Kindly submit complete references for publications.

I wish you all a restorative holiday season and every success in 2026!

Tina

Tina Uys

RC46 President

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Clinical Sociology in Action

Inside My Clinical Sociology Practice: Working with Rare Disease Families

By: Puspa Melati, Wan

I would like to share my experiences and evolving interest as a Clinical Sociologist supporting families in the Prader–Willi Syndrome (PWS) community in Malaysia. For me, the heart of this work lies in its practical application: guiding families to see their situations sociologically and empowering them to create more supportive, connected, and sustainable care structures. This journey first took shape in 2021 through a research project^[1] where my team and I examined food socialization and the socio-cultural dimensions of living with PWS among Malaysian families. PWS is a complicated genetic disorder that may be accompanied by an insatiable appetite, developmental delay, and behavioral problems. Although its medical components are sufficiently documented, very little has been known about how food habits, gender roles and cultural demands influence the day-to-day lives of the affected. Our research focused on Malaysian families and how they socialize in their daily meals, and on festivals. Food, to most Malaysian families, is not just a means of sustenance but also a symbol of love, communion and belonging. However, in families with PWS, these very practices are a cause of conflict and familial stress.

[1] The research was a Hubert Curien Partnership France-Malaysia Hibiscus (PHC Hibiscus) Grant titled “The Socialization of eating practices in children with Prader-Willi syndrome” (MYPAIR/1/2020/SS05/TAYLOR/1), which is a mirror study of “Socialisation des Pratiques alimentaires des Enfants avec un Syndrome Prader-Willi” (SoPAP – translation *Socialisation of Food Practices of Children with Prader-Willi Syndrome*). PHC-Hibiscus is a bilateral, jointly funded research programme, supported equally by France—through the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE) and the Ministry of Higher Education and Research (MESR)—and Malaysia through the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE).

Based on the research findings, I developed a team comprising two clinical sociologists (Wan Halim Othman and myself), a psychologist (Afezah Ali), and a social worker (Azahah Abu Shaari). Together, we conducted a series of workshops funded by the International Prader-Willi Syndrome Organisation (IPWSO) and Friends of IPWSO (USA). The workshops were tailored to the theme of 'Mindset Shift' and 'Normalization', aiming to help families, caregivers, and community members to reconsider their perception of PWS and how they construct normalcy. Through the sessions, participants were encouraged to reflect on their assumptions about ability, dependency, and family expectations. We talked about the social construction of disability, as well as societal pressures to meet the ideals of achievement and independence have ingrained the feeling of isolation or incompetence in many caregivers. We re-packaged these experiences both as structural and cultural issues through facilitated discussions and participative activities. Normalization was not talked about in the context of assimilation into mainstream norms, but rather in the context of acceptance, adaptation and agency in the social world.

Over time, the workshops expanded beyond Malaysia to include participants from Singapore and Indonesia. They were also strengthened by the involvement of Senator Jacob Isaiah, a Malaysian politician and leading disability advocate who has served in the upper house of Parliament since 2023 and currently chairs the Commonwealth Parliamentarians with Disabilities (CPwD) network. His participation added valuable policy insights, and he expressed a strong commitment to improving national support for rare-disease communities, including a pledge to champion the creation of a high-level Rare Disease Council in Malaysia.

For the recent workshop, I again included a psychologist, Afezah Ali, as well as a community psychologist from Indonesia, Indra Yohanes Kiling. It was through this regional engagement that they might have recognised their common challenges, as they navigated healthcare systems, overcame stigma, and maintained care, and that they also noted variations in institutional and community assistance. When the family has a rare disease, it is not only treating a rare disease that is a challenge, but also meeting cultural expectations, bureaucracy and attitudes of the society. The cooperation in this region turned out to be a learning community where knowledge was

exchanged horizontally among families, practitioners, and sociologists. We also included a case management session to address concerns, especially for teenagers with PWS. New tensions emerge as children grow in terms of roles, expectations, relationships, and independence. These are issues that have not been widely discussed within Asian families, and even less so among families living with PWS.

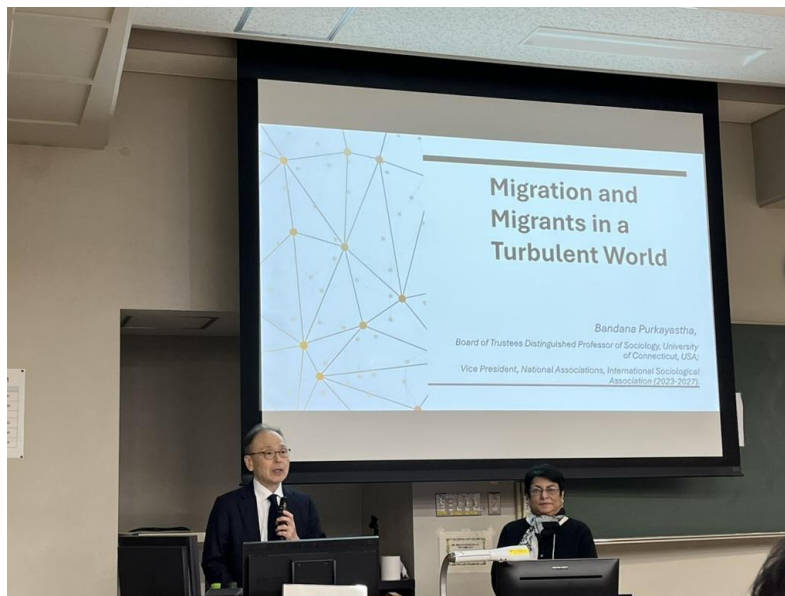
The recent session also focuses on the issue of parental and care roles. Role entanglement refers to the blurring of love and management responsibilities that many caregivers face, often resulting in role strain and emotional exhaustion, especially when they do not receive external support or, even worse, encounter interference from significant others. Understanding these dynamics enables us to create sociological responses by raising awareness of boundaries, fostering collective responsibility, and engaging with the community. Carer burnout is a psychologically perceived situation but has a sociological origin. Caregiving is a social construction, informed by gender, class, and culture. Though there are strong male proponents, caring is still very much feminized in Malaysia; mothers are supposed to take care of their children continuously, sacrificing their own wellbeing and their involvement in the life of society.

When considering conflict within the family, we place it in the cultural scripts of filial piety, religious obligation and social expectations. These analyses do not turn sociology into an abstract discipline but into a tool of transformation to be lived. My experience in the PWS community has strengthened my belief that clinical sociology is most powerful when theory is applied collaboratively to real-world challenges.

News From Clinical Sociologists Around the World

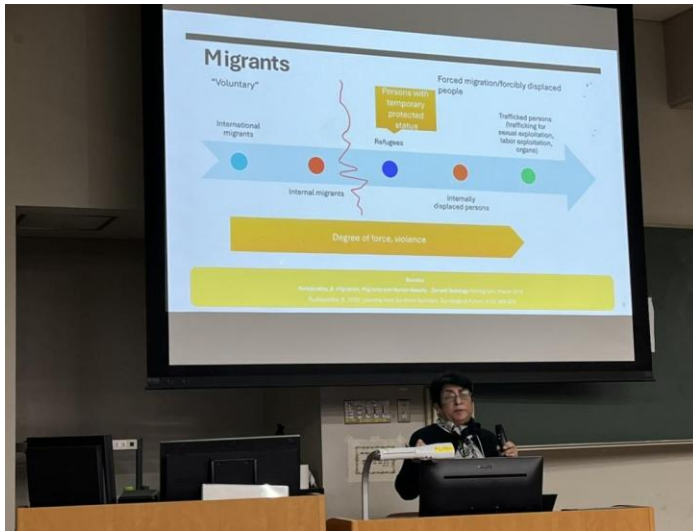
ISA Vice President for National Associations and RC Member Bandana Purkayastha at the JSS

By Johanna O. Zulueta



With JSS President Yoshimichi Sato

On 15-16 November 2025, Bandana Purkayastha attended the 98th Annual Conference of the Japan Sociological Society (JSS) held at Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo, Japan. The conference featured several exciting sessions in both Japanese and English, along with a joint session with the Taiwan Sociological Association. The JSS also grants travel awards to early-career scholars around the world to present their papers at a JSS conference. This year's travel award session theme is "Crises and Beyond: Diversity, Equality and Intersectionality."



The ISA Vice President Speech was held on the second day of the conference, and Bandana gave a talk titled, “Migration and Migrants in a Turbulent world: A transnational intersectional perspective.” Now more than ever, studies on migration and about migrants are increasingly becoming crucial in all regions of the globe. Along with international migrants, most of whom are voluntary, forced migrants such as refugees, internally displaced persons, and trafficked people are increasing in greater numbers.

While migration theories abound, Bandana emphasized the need to decolonize knowledge and scholarship on migration. She also asked the audience to consider the methodological approaches that migration scholars and sociologists of migration use. The thought-provoking speech elicited questions from the predominantly Japanese audience, particularly in Japan’s current political climate.



With Travel Award Grantees and some members of the JSS International Liaison Committee



Bandana during the Conference Reception

News from Mariam Seedat Khan

Professor Mariam Seedat-Khan Appointed Chair of the AACCS Certification Board

The Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACCS) has announced the appointment of Professor Mariam Seedat-Khan as Chair of the AACCS Certification Board. This prestigious role places Professor Seedat-Khan at the forefront of international efforts to advance professional standards and credentialing in Applied and Clinical Sociology. Professor Seedat-Khan, based at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) in South Africa, is a distinguished academic, Clinical Sociologist, and Vice-President of the International Sociological Association's Research Committee 46 (Clinical Sociology). Her appointment reflects decades of leadership in Applied Sociological practice, programme development, and international collaboration in higher education and community-based intervention.

The AACCS Certification Board oversees the rigorous process through which practitioners are recognised as Certified Clinical Sociologists (CCS), a designation that affirms professional competence, ethical practice, and applied expertise in the discipline. Under Professor Seedat-Khan's leadership, the Board will continue to strengthen global partnerships and promote standards of excellence that align with the evolving needs of communities and institutions worldwide. Professor Seedat-Khan's appointment also marks a significant milestone for African representation in global professional sociology networks, underscoring her commitment to transformation, equity, and the internationalisation of knowledge. *"It is an honour to serve the AACCS community and to continue advancing the mission of Clinical Sociology — to apply Sociological insight toward meaningful, evidence-based interventions that promote social justice and wellbeing,"* said Professor Seedat-Khan.

News from France

By Agnès Vandeveldé-Rougale

The seminar "Histoires de vie et choix théoriques" ('Life stories and theoretical choices'), organised by the RISC and the LCSP (Université Paris Cité) continues on-site in Paris for a new season and new guests: <https://lcsp.u-paris.fr/seminaire-histoires-de-vie-et-choix-theoriques-2025-2026/>

Online talks given by clinical sociologists also continue. A replay of Vincent de Gaulejac's talk on "The powerlessness of politics in a paradoxing society" can be found on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yplj3-8Okh0>, as well as the talks given in the framework of a cycle entitled "Introduction to decolonial thoughts which weave with psychosociology" organised by the CIRFIP: <https://cirfip.org/les-conferences/> Talks by Jamal Lamrani, Patricia Guerrero Morales, Wilsot Louis are already online. The next talk will be given by Rose-Myrliè Joseph in December (free registration on: <https://cirfip.org/inscriptions/>)

Several recent and upcoming publications can be pointed out:

. Marcelo Balboa (Université Laval), Fernando de Yzaguirre (Universidad del Atlántico) and Vincent de Gaulejac (Université Paris Cité) recently published a joint article "Prevenir el abandono, la autoagresión y el suicidio en universitarios: abordaje del malestar estudiantil" ("Preventing abandonment, self-harm and suicide in university students: addressing student ill-being"):
<https://revistas.uniatlantico.edu.co/index.php/Collectivus/article/view/4594>

. Edouard Robin has published a book based on his PhD. thesis: "Comment l'argent nous travaille. Usages et représentations de l'argent dans le rapport salarial" ("How money works on us. Uses and representations of money in the salary relationship"):
<https://www.editions-harmattan.fr/catalogue/livre/comment-largent-nous-travaille/79818>

. The book "Le coût de l'excellence" ("The cost of excellency") <https://www.seuil.com/ouvrage/le-cout-de-l-excellence-nicole-aubert/9782020889988>) by Nicole Aubert and Vincent de Gaulejac, first published in 1991 and reedited in 2007 will benefit from a third edition in February 2026 as a paperback.

ISA RC46 Presence at the Ethics and Disasters Conference – Tokyo, 23–25 November 2025

by Joshua Vidal

The International Conference on “Ethics and Disasters” was held in Tokyo on 23–25 November 2025, co-hosted by the Youwa Research Center, the Asia Pacific Sociological Association (APSA), the American University of Sovereign Nations (AUSN), and partner institutions. The event brought together 57 participants from Japan, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Nepal, the United States, New Zealand, Ireland, Ukraine, Brazil, India, and other countries to discuss ethical responses on disasters.



Source: The International Conference on “Ethics and Disasters,” co-hosted by the Youwa Research Center, the Asia Pacific Sociological Association, the American University of Sovereign Nations (AUSN).

A major highlight for ISA RC46 was the presence of Dr. Emma Porio, *ISA RC46 Board member* (from the Ateneo de Manila University), who presented her paper “Violence Against Nature, Cascading Disasters, Governance and Ethics: Bridging the Science–Policy–Practice Nexus amidst Flood & Earthquake Devastations in the Philippines.” Her talk examined how environmental degradation, governance gaps, and social inequality intersect to produce cascading risks—and called for just,

science-informed policies.

Equally notable was Prof. Miwako Hosoda, *President of APSA*, who not only helped co-host the event but also served as a discussant and presenter, emphasizing that disasters and ethics are shared concerns of local communities and the international community, and that cooperation among nations is vital for better prevention and preparedness.

Across three days of sessions, participants shared research on earthquakes, floods, pandemics like COVID-19, and human-induced disasters linked to uncontrolled economic development, mining, and deforestation—stressing the need for long-term, ethically grounded policies and stronger community resilience.




Source: The International Conference on “Ethics and Disasters,” co-hosted by the Youwa Research Center, the Asia Pacific Sociological Association, the American University of Sovereign Nations (AUSN).

Announcements

From Rosemary Barberet

AVAILABLE FOR
DOWNLOAD AT
NO COST
THROUGH
DECEMBER 2025

SCAN



OR
CLICK

<https://shorturl.at/lbu6M>

SPECIAL ISSUE

FEMINIST APPROACHES TO JUSTICE: CONTRIBUTIONS TO CSW68

Volume 41 June 2025 ISSN 1744-0019
**INTERNATIONAL
JOURNAL OF
LAW
CRIME
AND
JUSTICE**

The special issue brings together an interdisciplinary collection of research showcasing the 68th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68) and the parallel forum (NGOCSW68), held in 2024. Framed by a compelling foreword from NGOCSW68 co-chairs Ivy Koek and Pamela Morgan, the issue offers a critical feminist lens on justice, equity, and gendered experiences in legal systems around the world. The contributions shed light on the social, economic, psychological, and legal dimensions of injustice facing women and marginalized genders, and call for policy change informed by lived experience and intersectional analysis.

Together, these contributions form a powerful mosaic of feminist scholarship and activism, amplifying the voices of those too often left out of mainstream legal discourse. This special issue not only deepens academic understanding of gender and justice but also serves as a resource for international advocates, legal practitioners, and policymakers striving to implement feminist-informed solutions to structural inequality.

Guest Editors:

Dawn Beichner-Thomas
Illinois State University,
Normal, Illinois, USA

Rosemary Barberet
John Jay College of Criminal Justice,
New York, New York, USA

Sheetal Ranjan
Montclair State University,
Montclair, New Jersey, USA

Featured Research Articles:

- *Attitudes Toward Female Immigrants and Refugees to the United States: A Conjoint Experiment*
Authors: Liza G. Steele, Laird Gallagher
- *Visibilizing the Economic Oppression of Sex Workers and the Imperative of Donor Support*
Authors: Nadine Gloss, Susana Fried, Jules Kim, Luca Stevenson
- *"Victim" is such a touchy word": Rethinking Victimhood Among Human Trafficking Intervention Court Defendants in the U.S.*
Author: Lauren N. Moton
- *Women Demand Government Action: Violence Against Women and Local Government Legitimacy*
Authors: Abby Córdova, Diana Orcés
- *The Aftermath of Campus Sexual Harassment: Psychological and Academic Effects*
Authors: Paz Guarderas-Albuja, Marcos Zumárraga-Espinosa, Ximena Ramírez-Ocaña, Johanna Luzuriaga
- *Breaking Barriers? A Study of Individual and Societal Influences on Engagement With Women's Police Stations in Guatemala*
Author: Laura Ilesue
- *Gendered SLAPPs: Addressing Criminal Prosecutions Against Exposers of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Under International Human Rights Law*
Authors: Tejal Jesrani, Daimiris Garcia
- *Lessons for Women's Reintegration Programs on an Evaluation of a Program in Chile*
Authors: Diego Piñol Arriagada, Marico Sánchez Cea, Adolfo González, Rodrigo Salas, Alejandra Mohor, Paola Tapia

From Carole-Lynne Le Navenec

If anyone is at a University or college setting where you have an active Intergenerational Learning/Teaching and Research program that involves retired Professors who are involved in more than just mentoring post secondary students but also assist them in scholarly writing and subsequently have them publish articles with their supervisor in a peer reviewed journal, or assist them with research applications, or serve on their thesis or similar committee, then would they please contact me. I am a retired professor, but I want to get a scholarship developed for students that involves them doing research on Intergenerational teaching/learning/research programs, and they have at least one retired professor on their committee.

From Jan Fritz

The ISA is a member of the Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People and members of RC 46 are encouraged to join in the Global Rally happening on 1-7 February 2026. Please send a message to Jan Fritz if you are interested in participating or if you want to be involved in the alliance. Further information can be found here: <https://preview.mailerlite.io/emails/webview/410124/173391816175912374>



Recent publications from RC 46 Members

Fernando De Yzaguirre

Balboa, M., De Yzaguirre F., & De Gaulejac, Vincent. (2025). Prevenir el abandono, la autoagresión y el suicidio en universitarios: abordaje del malestar estudiantil. *Collectivus. Revista de Ciencias Sociales*, 2025, Vol 12, Issue 1, p1. DOI: [10.15648/Collectivus.vol12num1.2025.4594](https://doi.org/10.15648/Collectivus.vol12num1.2025.4594)

Abstract:

Addressing student distress as a strategy to prevent academic dropouts, self-harming behaviors, and suicide in universities

Prévention, santé mentale, mal-être étudiant, détresse, idées suicidaires, adaptation à la vie universitaire, dispositifs d'intervention

Johanna O. Zulueta

Zulueta, J. O. (2025). The Philippine State and Aging Filipino Migrants. *International Migration Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01979183251384612>

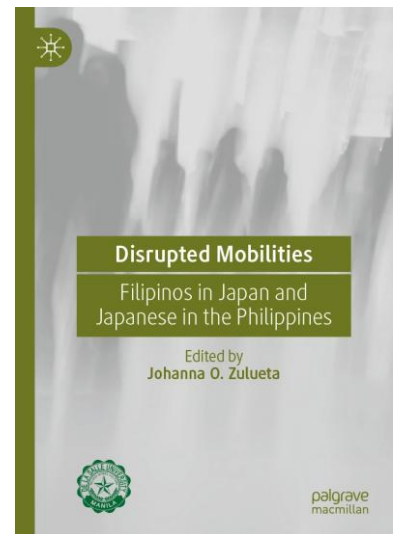
Abstract

Aging has increasingly become an issue of concern in many countries, particularly in most migrant-receiving countries, where migrant workers are employed to address labor shortages due to an aging workforce. It should be noted that aging is also a concern for migrant-sending countries, where deployed workers and other long-term migrants are now experiencing the onset of aging. It is estimated that out of around 281 million international migrants, 12.2% (34.3 million) are aged 65 or older. Looking at cases from Japan and Malaysia, this report discusses the experiences and challenges of older or “aging” Filipino migrant workers, many of whom happen to be among the most vulnerable. However, it should be kept in mind that these older migrants are diverse not only in terms of experiences but also in terms of class, gender, occupation, and legal

status. This report also emphasizes the need for more qualitative and ethnographic studies to augment existing data (which are mostly statistical) on Filipino migrants who are “aging-in-place” away from the homeland. Moreover, it explores how the Philippine state provides social citizenship to these older migrants—both temporary and long-term ones—and argues the need for more effective programs that would enable a sustainable return and reintegration.

Zulueta, J.O. (ed.). (2025). *Disrupted Mobilities*. Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore.

This volume chronicles migrant lives in Japan and the Philippines during the COVID-19 pandemic. In particular, it focuses on the Japanese in the Philippines and the Filipinos in Japan, making it a valuable resource for those doing research on migrations between these two countries, and/or about migrations in Asia, in general. The chapters in this volume are important in informing not only scholars studying migration, but also policy-makers, NGOs, and the general public, as to how non-citizens in these two countries have grappled with the challenges posed by the pandemic. It will also be a valuable resource for communities and governments around the world as they prepare for similar health crises in the near future.



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