The 20th Annual Conference of
Hong Kong Sociological Association

Identity Politics in a GLOBALIZED WORLD

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VENUE
Sino Building
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

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Chung Chi College
New Asia College
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ORGANIZER
Department of Sociology,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong Sociological Association

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Welcoming Remarks

Prof. CHAN Hau-nung, Annie
Lingnan University

President of
Hong Kong Sociological Association

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to the 20th Annual Conference of the Hong Kong Sociological Association (HKSA). The higher education environment in Hong Kong has undergone significant changes in recent years and the social sciences and humanities in particular are perhaps feeling the impact of these changes more acutely than ever. It is therefore particularly encouraging to see so many scholars gathering today at this annual event. This is an important testament to the value of rigorous empirical sociological research and theorisation, and to Hong Kong as a site where sociological knowledge is produced. On behalf of the HKSA Council, I want to thank our members for their support. In the past two years we have continued with our public seminar series and have launched a new scheme to support student-led projects. Under the leadership of our new President and Council, the HKSA will continue to serve our members and the local community. Thank you once again, and I hope you will enjoy today's programme.

Welcoming Remarks

Prof. FONG Eric
Chair, Department of Sociology
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to this beautiful campus of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. It is a great honour for the Department of Sociology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong to host this year's annual meeting of the Hong Kong Sociological Association. Over the past decades, the Department has been playing a significant role in the development of sociology in Hong Kong and China. While research conducted in our department addresses major social issues going on in different parts of the world, our colleagues are also committed to advance understanding of Hong Kong society through the sociological lens.

All of us at our Department wish you have a successful and rewarding conference experience. On this occasion, we would like to congratulate the leadership of Professor Annie Chan, the President of the Association, and her team. Our gratitude also goes to the local organizing team led by Professor Sara Zhong in making arrangements for the conference. Let us learn from each other and enjoy our discussions today.

Programme Schedule

9:00 - 9:15	**Opening**	LKC LT1

Prof. CHAN Hau-Nung, Annie   President of HKSA
Department of Sociology and Social Policy, Lingnan University, Hong Kong

Prof. FONG, Eric
Chair of Department of Sociology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

9:15 - 10:15	**Keynote Speech**	LKC LT1

"Trumpism" and the Future of Globalization
Prof. HUNG Ho-fung,
Department of Sociology, Johns Hopkins University, USA

10:15 - 10:30	**Tea Break**	SB 408

10:30 - 11:45	**Panel Session 1**	
	Panel 1.1 Localist Politics and Social Movements in Hong Kong	SB 422
	Panel 1.2 Migration and Race/Ethnicity	SB 520
	Panel 1.3 Substance Use and Health	CKB 108
	Panel 1.4 Sociology of Education I: Education in Hong Kong	CKB 122
	Panel 1.5 Gender, Marriage, and Family	CKB 123
	Panel 1.6 Working Class and Labor Politics in Hong Kong and Mainland China	SB 429

11:45 - 13:00	**Panel Session 2**	
	Panel 2.1 Social Theory Revisited	SB 422
	Panel 2.2 Gender, Body, and Sexuality	SB 520
	Panel 2.3 National Identity and Nationalism	CKB 108
	Panel 2.4 Sociology of Education II	CKB 122
	Panel 2.5 Political Mobilization and Political Participation	CKB 123
	Panel 2.6 The Shifting Contours of National Identity in the Age of Globalization	SB 429

| 13:00 - 14:30 | **Lunch @ Chung Chi College Staff Club** | |

14:30 - 15:45	**Panel Session 3**	
	Panel 3.1 Attitudes, Identity and Intergroup Relations	SB 422
	Panel 3.2 Crime, Policing and Punishment I	SB 520
	Panel 3.3 Migration, Identity, and Culture	CKB 108
	Panel 3.4 Social Stratification	CKB 122
	Panel 3.5 Football, Identity, and Fandom in Hong Kong and China	CKB 123
	Panel 3.6 The Socio-Cultural Implications of Old-Time Brand Businesses in Contemporary China I	SB 429

| 15:45 - 16:00 | **Tea Break** | SB 408 |

16:00 - 17:15	**Panel Session 4**	
	Panel 4.1 Civil Society	SB 422
	Panel 4.2 Crime, Policing and Punishment II	SB 520
	Panel 4.3 Elderly and Aging	CKB 108
	Panel 4.4 Literature, Culture and Religion	CKB 122
	Panel 4.5 Child and Youth	CKB 123
	Panel 4.6 The Socio-Cultural Implications of Old-Time Brand Businesses in Contemporary China II	SB 429

17:15 - 18:30	**Panel Session 5**	
	Panel 5.1 Development and Urbanization	SB 422
	Panel 5.2 Crime, Policing and Punishment III	SB 520
	Panel 5.3 Gender and Culture	CKB 108
	Panel 5.4 Sociology of Internet	CKB 122
	Panel 5.5 Work and Occupation	CKB 123

End of the Conference Programme

Barry Sautman
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Hong Kong Nativism and the Chinese Communist Colonial Conspiracy to Crush Cantonese

Abstract

Hong Kong nativism ("localism") is part of a global phenomenon that blames select groups of immigrants and their co-ethnics abroad for key problems of a given territory. Nativism is often associated with ethnocratic and racist identity politics, generally of majority peoples. A discourse of invasion and cultural threat is common among US, European, Japanese and other nativists, including top politicians. It may assign to external political actors responsibility for the putative invasion; for example, in the US case to Mexico and in the Hong Kong case to the Chinese mainland. It may fix, as it does in those cases, on a threat to the prevalent language.

This paper compares the US and Hong Kong cases, but mainly focuses on the discourse of the threat to Cantonese as elaborated in interviews with leaders of Hong Kong localist groups, but also other political actors. As in the US case, Hong Kong nativist leaders promote a conspiracy theory about colonization and language erosion that is contradicted by linguists and sociologists. Data in fact show that spoken Cantonese remains overwhelmingly dominant among ethnic Chinese in Hong Kong and that the language is stronger than ever due to the efflorescence of written Cantonese, the spread of social media and the diminished use of "other Chinese dialects" apart from Cantonese and Putonghua. The reasons for nativist claims in the face of disconfirming evidence and the significance of conspiracy theories about Cantonese for constructions of Hong Kong identity by localist and non-localist forces are adumbrated.

Jette G. Hansen Edwards

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

The Politics of English in Hong Kong: Attitudes, Identity, and Use

Abstract

This talk addresses three main questions:
· Are politics influencing identities in Hong Kong?
· Are politics influencing attitudes towards language(s) and varieties in Hong Kong?
· Which language(s)/variety(s) reflect a local, Hong Kong identity – being a 'Hong Konger'?

Answers to these questions have implications beyond Hong Kong; they help us to understand how political events can shape language use and language identification, and how this can occur in relatively short periods of time rather than unfolding over decades or centuries. As such, this talk presents the first study to track real time language attitude changes against a divisive political landscape. It is also the most comprehensive study of language attitudes in Hong Kong to date, taking place over four years with over 1600 participants. The use of both survey and interview data presents a multifaceted portrait of language change in progress, providing a more nuanced and complex view of language and identity than has previously been presented. The focus on the status of Hong Kong English (HKE) in view of attitudes towards Cantonese, English, and Putonghua also provides deeper analysis of the linguistic complexity of Hong Kong; it can be argued that one cannot understand attitudes towards HKE without fully understanding the status and use of English in Hong Kong. The talk also presents a complex examination of language attitudes in Hong Kong by focusing not only on the what of language attitudes, but also the question of for whom, through an analysis of language attitudes by gender, age, identity, and speaking HKE. Language attitudes are not monolithic within any given population; rather, different demographic groups may hold different – and conflicting – language attitudes; they may also respond differently to the political atmosphere. In sum, this talk attempts to tease out which language attitudes exist in Hong Kong for English, Cantonese, and Putonghua, as well as for different varieties of English, including HKE, and for whom these attitudes exist and why.

Ip Ping Lam

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Enemies with Common Root: A Comparison between Anti-China Localist Organization and Pro-China Pretest Groups in Hong Kong

Abstract

This paper examines two major explanations of the recent rise of localism and Hong Kong Independence Movement—emergence of xenophobic attitude as a result of influx of migrants especially Mainland Chinese and the discontent with traditional political parties especially from the pro-democracy camp. Comparing anti-mainland localist organizations with pro-China protest organizations in terms of their discourse and organizational structure, this paper argues that the two explanations were indeed necessary but not sufficient conditions for the rise of anti-mainland localism because a new pro-China social movement initiated in the same period also shared the same conditions. It shows that both movements originated as a response to migrants' attempt to enhance their social rights in Hong Kong, so that both movements later developed racist discourses against migrants belonging to the lowest strata of Hong Kong society such as Mainland Chinese and Southeast Asians. It also indicates that activists from both movements formed their own organizations with loose structure and unstable funding sources but high degree of autonomy because they were disappointed by the continuous failure of traditional political parties. This paper concludes by suggesting generational difference as a possible factor to explain why the two movements have totally opposite political orientations, one being pro-independence, another being pro-China.

Ng Cham Hung

The University of Hong Kong

Crowd as Complexity: The Changing Strategies of Occupy Central with Love and Peace in Hong Kong

Abstract

The rational and structural approach to social movements has been criticized for ignoring the importance of emotion. Although the proponents of emotional study often claim that both rationality and emotion are equally important in social movements, they seldom, if not never, study how a rationally organized protest group treat or react to emotional eruptions in a social movement. To fill in this knowledge gap, I wish to answer the question of how Occupy Central with Love and Peace (OCLP) in Hong Kong, a rationally organized protest group, adapt to emotional scenarios in protest? This study is explorative, and the data includes interview, news articles, and other documents. This study finds that OCLP not only frames itself in terms of peace and rationality but also attempts to internalize the crowd into its operation in four major ways, 1) analysis and monitoring; 2)recruitment and fundraising; 3) deliberation day and poll; 4) scenario prediction and preparation. This study also finds that the intensity and the scale of by emotional eruption among the crowd beyond the calculation of the OCLP. As a result, the OCLP needs to adjust its role from a leader to a supporter of the movement. Since the different orientations between the OCLP and the mobilized supporters forced the OCLP not only to give up their leadership in the UM but also lead the group to alter strategies from using occupation as a bargaining chip to using civil disobedience as a means or moral appeal. In conclusion, I will argue that the emotion among the crowd should not be treated as an external or internal factor for a social movement organization, but a complex environmental factor for the organization.

Chiu Shui Kau

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Political Majority as a Catalyst of Social Movement: A Case Study of Identity Politics before the Umbrella Movement

Abstract

Identity is important in shaping our attitudes and behaviours in different aspects like politics. While able to consolidate a unity of a group of people, identity politics suggests that it can lead to social movement. There are many previous studies linking identity politics with social movement and most of them perceive identity politics from the perspective of minority groups. Nonetheless, departing from majority group to understand their relationship should deserve more attentions. Viewing that 2014 Umbrella Movement is the largest social movement in Hong Kong after 1997, therefore this paper probes into the role of majority group in identity politics among local administration level few months before the movement and propose that their identity shaped their behaviours which become one of the catalysts for an occurrence of the movement. Data analysis were based on official documents and interviews with Hong Kong people. Results of this paper can contribute to different parties including educationists, policy makers and politicians.

Panel 1.2
Migration and Race/Ethnicity

Biyang Sun & Eric Fong
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Immigration and Entrepreneurship in Hong Kong

Abstract

Immigrants have settled in major cities of the world and many of them established their own businesses. Despite the fact that there have been a considerable number of studies on immigrant businesses in Australia, Europe, and North America, limited studies have explored immigrant businesses in Asia. The relative neglect is unfortunate as immigrant population has been growing in many Asian countries. In this presentation, we will take the first step toward understanding immigrant businesses in Hong Kong, one of the major global cities in East Asia. Using Hong Kong Census, we will explore the socio-demographic background of immigrant entrepreneurs and the locational and industrial distribution of their businesses. We will also contrast these entrepreneurs with other immigrant groups in Hong Kong. The findings of our study and their implications to the pattern of immigrant entrepreneurs and urban development in Canada and the US will be discussed.

Wang Bingyu
Sun Yat-Sen University

Becoming Cosmopolitan? Hybridity and Intercultural Encounter amongst 1.5 Generation Chinese Migrants in New Zealand

Abstract

The 1.5 generation migrants are often presented by scholars as the vanguard of new cosmopolitan possibilities. Their hybrid identities and intercultural competencies are viewed as evidence for new ways of approaching difference in diverse societies. This paper examines these claims in relation to Chinese 1.5 generation migrants in New Zealand, focusing on their experiences of negotiating the family and early life, and possibilities for becoming cosmopolitan. By drawing insights from 'everyday cosmopolitanism', the paper examines how hybrid identities both facilitate and undermine capacities to overcome difference and alter the power dynamics within social worlds. This demonstrates that everyday cosmopolitanism is not easily achieved but rather oscillates around strategies for fitting in that sometimes reinforce uneven social positions. As such, this paper argues for caution in accounts of the 1.5 generation and recognition of the ways that cosmopolitanism is socially situated, subject to the multiple pressures, and enacted within the uneven power relations of society.

Yao-Tai Li
Hong Kong Baptist University

"I Become a Scapegoat Because I am Seen as Chinese": Identity Conflicts and the Decline of Overseas Chinese Solidarity in Australia

Abstract

Research on race and ethnicity has sought to identify conditions under which panethnic solidarity will be developed to consolidate subgroup benefits. For example, facing racial discrimination can bring racial/ethnic groups together to protect common interests. Generally, by creating large-scale affiliations and a broader panethnic solidarity (e.g. people with black skin, Latinos, or Asians), more people can come together to fight for shared interests or against racial injustice. This article, however, highlights that racial discrimination from white people in Australia did not cultivate a broader panethnic solidarity among Taiwanese and PRC-Chinese, nor did discrimination experiences lead to a strong overseas Chinese identity. To explain why this is so, this article focuses on how Taiwanese and PRC-Chinese migrants differently interpret panethnic (Chinese) solidarity and racial discrimination. By showing how Taiwanese connect to and shift boundaries with PRC-Chinese, as well as how they distinguish the effects between racial discrimination from white Australians and political hostility from PRC-Chinese, this article argues that racial discrimination from white Australians is not a sufficient condition that compels Taiwanese migrants to embrace overseas Chinese solidarity. The findings suggest there is a power relation and identity conflicts among overseas Chinese communities. Furthermore, this study highlights that assertions of panethnic solidarity can be strategic and have different meanings at the diasporic and national levels.

Matthew Ming-tak Chew
Hong Kong Baptist University

Glocal Ethnic Hierarchies: A Global Field Theoretical Exploration of Race and Ethnicity

Abstract

Macro theorization of race and ethnicity outside major Western national contexts and that in the global context are seriously lacking in sociology (though there are certainly numerous middle-range empirical studies on them). This theoretical paper contributes to filling this research gap and answers the call for the development of a new global sociology of race and ethnicity (Connell 2018). It adopts the 'global field theory' developed by Bourdieu (1993), Buchholz (2016), and Krause (2018) to understand ethnic hierarchies in societies embedded in the contemporary multi-scalar global context.

In major Western societies, the highest ethnic hierarchical positions are occupied by the domestic ethnic majority group and/or the ruling ethnic group. Do domestic ethnic majority groups also occupy the highest positions in other societies — in a way parallel to major Western societies? Or do globally dominant ethnic groups occupy the highest positions in these societies, due to the impact of colonial history, biased media representations, and the global ethnic hierarchy? For major Western societies, potential conflicts between the two answers are moot — domestic ethnic majorities in these societies also happen to be the globally dominant ethnic groups. Therefore, major Western societies constitute very special cases among societies embedded in the contemporary multi-scalar global context.

Adopting global field theory, I propose to model the general case with the following factors: historical local ethnic hierarchy, the current global ethnic hierarchy and regional ethnic hierarchy, domestic ethnic hierarchies of relevant foreign nations, and relevant local social forces that shape current local ethnic hierarchy. I propose the concept 'glocal ethnic hierarchy' to refer to the causal confluence of these factors.

Jin Lei
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Investigating the Trends in Socioeconomic Gaps in Smoking Behavior in Contemporary China

Abstract

Background: China is the largest producer and consumer of tobacco in the world. In 2011, around one million deaths were attributed to smoking. It has been well documented that socioeconomic status is predictive of smoking behavior. Moreover, influential theories in medical sociology argue that as the knowledge about the harms of smoking spreads, the socioeconomic gaps in smoking would widen. However, little research has rigorously examined the trends in the socioeconomic gaps in smoking during recent decades in China.

Data and methods: We used the data from a national longitudinal survey that spanned 21 years from 1991 to 2011; we applied growth curve models to examine how socioeconomic gaps in smoking behavior changed over the life course for different cohorts.

Findings: During the study period, the prevalence rate of active smoking is 60% and 3.8% for adult men and women respectively. Among men, cigarette consumption peaked for the cohorts born between 1955 and 1965 and started to decline in more recent cohorts. Education is inversely correlated with smoking. In earlier cohorts, the educational gap in smoking narrowed and became the narrowest in the 1955-65 cohort; the gap started to widen in more recent cohorts. Income is not correlated with smoking. Rural residents smoked more than urban residents in earlier cohorts, but then cigarette consumption in urban areas grew much faster than rural areas, such that in the 1955-65 cohort, urban residents were more likely to smoke than rural ones. Smoking then declined faster in urban than rural areas, to the extent that in the most recent cohort, we observe little urban/rural difference. Among women, cigarette consumption consistently decreased across cohorts. The small number of female smokers makes it infeasible to assess changes in socioeconomics gaps in smoking among women.

Discussion: We found evidence that as cigarette consumption declined in recent cohorts in China, the socioeconomic gaps in the consumption widened, especially for men. Policies for smoking cessation may need to target vulnerable groups, such as men with low levels of education.

Yue Zhuo

St John's University

Substance Abuse, Mental Health, and Aggressive Behaviors

Abstract

The interrelationships between severe mental illness, substance use, and aggression are of longstanding importance with implications for community treatment programs, treatment research and public policy. Through the analysis of longitudinal data collected from 278 patients over a 6-month period following admission to an outpatient dual diagnosis treatment program, this study examined the association between dual diagnosis treatment attendance and subsequent aggression among individuals diagnosed with both a severe mental illness and a substance use disorder. We also tested substance use and psychiatric symptoms as mediators of this treatment-aggression relationship. The results of structural equation modeling analyses indicated that dual diagnosis treatment was associated with lower levels of subsequent aggression. Mediational analyses indicated that greater treatment involvement was associated with reduced substance use, which was associated with lower levels of aggression; thus, substance use was found to mediate the relationship between dual diagnosis treatment and aggression. Surprisingly, severity of psychiatric symptoms did not predict later aggression. These findings suggest that targeting substance use reduction in treatment may reduce risk of later aggression among dual diagnosis patients.

Xi Chen

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Drug Use among HIV Positive Men Who Have Sex with Men (HIVMSM) in China

Abstract

Despite the adverse health consequences of drug use among HIV positive men who have sex with men (HIVMSM), few studies have examined factors associated with drug use among this population. This research is among the first to investigate the relationship between various psycho-social and sex-related variables and drug use among HIVMSM in China. Data from a cross-sectional survey of 415 HIVMSM in Chengdu, China showed that 10.8% of the participants used drugs in the past 30 days. Among 269 participants who had sexual behaviors in the past 30 days, 11.5% used drugs during sex. Our findings showed that life satisfaction, happiness, and positive affect were negatively associated with drug use in the last 30 days and drug use during sex. However, there were weak or no relationship between negative well-being variables (e.g., depression, negative affect, and HIV-related stress) and drug use among this population. One interesting finding was the differential effects of regular and non-regular partners on drug use. While those with more non-regular partners were more likely to use drugs in the past 30 days and use drugs during sex, participants having one regular partner were less likely to be involved in global or sexual situation-specific drug use than their counterparts with no regular partners. Findings of this study could inform more effective substance-use intervention programs targeting sexual minority men so as to reduce new HIV infection and other risky behaviors in this community.

Yunran Zhang, Hua Zhong & Jin Wang

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Sun Yat-Sen University

"I Have Chosen the Best Drug": Chinese Drug Users' Decision-Making Process in Initiation and Maintenance

Abstract

In last three decades, China has experienced the transition from a typical heroin society to a methamphetamine country, especially among younger generations. This qualitative study aimed to capture how drug users made decisions of choosing drugs in both initiation and maintenance of their drug use career. We conducted sixty in-depth interviews with drug users in both community drug treatment centers and compulsory drug treatment institutions in China. According to the main type of their drug use, participants were divided into two groups: 38 heroin users and 22 methamphetamine users. Two main themes were identified in the analysis of the qualitative data: 1) involvement in high-risk network and 2) assessment of the harm of drugs. Findings indicated that their choice of drugs for initiation was largely dependent upon the high-risk network that they were embedded in. Besides the differential association effects, the cohort differences between heroin groups and methamphetamine groups were largely due to the changes in the drug market as well as the broader changes of social development and globalization (Laidler, 2005; Liang and Zheng, 2015). Afterwards, the assessment of the harm of drugs (including physical harms, social harms, physical dependence, and psychological dependence) would be the key factor that shaped or reshaped their choice of drugs at the maintenance stage of their drug career.

Shafei Gu

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Research on the Status, Determinants and Health Outcomes of Floating Population's Health Literacy

Abstract

China has the largest domestic migration population worldwide; however, due to the imperfection of relevant systems and policies, the floating population is marginalized and faced with relatively high risk on health. The health status of floating population is an important for the accomplishment of the "Healthy China" strategy. Health literacy has significant influence on health, the promotion of people's health literacy is also a major initiative to advance the "Healthy China" strategic plan; at present, the health literacy of floating population is quite limited and seldom concerned, which would lead to the limited capacities of coping with health risks, as well as maintaining and improving health. Based on a survey conducted in Xi'an City, this paper focuses on the status, determinants and health outcomes of the health literacy of floating population.

The main results of this research are as follows: in the aspect of status analysis, the health literacy of floating population is limited generally, especially in terms of health knowledge and health behavior. In the aspect of determinants, the health literacy of floating population is influenced by multiple factors, including health education services provided by the destination city, demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, migration features, as well as social support and environment features; health education service in destination city has not played a role in promoting health literacy of floating population, but among those who have participated in health education services contents and approaches of health education have different effects; education level, social support and environment features are important influencing factors as well; in addition, these factors show different influencing effects on different dimensions of health literacy. In the aspect of health outcomes, the health literacy is a strong predicting factor of the health of floating population; health concepts have significantly positive effect on the mental health of floating population, while health behaviors have significantly positive effects both on physical health and mental health of floating population.

Panel 1.4
Sociology of Education I: Education in Hong Kong

Ho Wai Yip & Ng Wing Fung Matthew	Backyard Furnace? Frontline Educators' Learning to Teach Muslims Students in Hong Kong
Wu Joseph, Chui Wing Hong Eric & Chan Kit Ying	A Study on Academic Dishonesty among University Students in Hong Kong
Yau Siu Ho, Thomas & Chun Wai Sun, Derek	Assessment IS Learning (AIL) in Hong Kong: A Distorted Hong Kong Education Climate
Yan Kin Cheung Adrian	School Curriculum and Identity Politics in Hong Kong: An Educational Perspective
Cheung Ka Lok Adam & Anita Kit-Wa Chan	Single-Sex Schooling, Gender and STEM Career Aspiration in Hong Kong

Ho Wai Yip & Ng Wing Fung Matthew
The Education University of Hong Kong

Backyard Furnace? Frontline Educators' Learning to Teach Muslims Students in Hong Kong

Abstract
Present literature concerning ethnic students in Hong Kong has been largely focusing on ethnic students' struggle in identity formation, emotional and behavioral needs, acquisition of Chinese language, disparity of social rights and opportunities as well as academic and career mobility, etc. While perspectives of ethnic students' learning under mainstream teaching in Chinese schools have attracted much attention, voices of frontline educators' learning from everyday teaching ethnic students are not widely addressed. Rather perceiving teacher as a traditional authority figure in a mono-cultural Chinese classroom, this particular case-study argues growing number of frontline Chinese teachers have been undergoing experiential learning and ongoing reflection through daily teaching and interaction with ethnic Muslim students in Hong Kong.

Wu Joseph, Chui Wing Hong Eric & Chan Kit Ying
City University of Hong Kong

A Study on Academic Dishonesty among University Students in Hong Kong

Abstract

Academic dishonesty has been a rising concern in higher education around the world. Advances in technology and a diversification of assessment tasks (i.e. not relying solely on traditional paper-and-pencil tests taken in regular classroom settings) make this problem seemingly more severe nowadays, than any time before. Why are some students being tempted to engage themselves in different types of unethical behaviors which are not allowed according to university academic regulations? How do they calculate in terms of the risk and cost before engaging in unethical behaviors? Do they perceive the academic dishonesty as acceptable?

To have a better understanding on issues related to academic dishonesty in the context of higher education, a survey study was conducted with a sample of Chinese university students recruited from a publicly funded university in Hong Kong. Inspired by the theory of planned behavior (Ajzen, 1985), this study examines issues surrounding students' knowledge, skills, acceptance, and attitudes toward different types of academically unethical behaviors. Findings of this study can shed some light on how to promote academic honesty in higher education.

Yau Siu Ho, Thomas & Chun Wai Sun, Derek
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Assessment IS Learning (AIL) in Hong Kong: A Distorted Hong Kong Education Climate

Abstract

In recent years, the facilitative role of assessment in teaching and learning has often been highlighted in different scales of educational researches, which drives the emergence of relevant concepts such as Assessment for Learning and Assessment of Learning. Despite the successful cases reported from literature, some studies pointed out that formative use of assessment in the Asian culture settings might not be effective, especially in societies heavily influenced by Confucian cultural values. In the context of Hong Kong, the root cause could be related to the examination-oriented culture and credentialism as observed by Wong (2018). Even though multiple tracks of development are available nowadays (e.g. vocational education, AD and HD programme) under the advocacy of diversified pathway, major articulation routes for Hong Kong students are still heavily dependent on public examination results. The target of learning, therefore, gradually shifts from the pursuit of academic knowledge to the instrumental and mechanical process of skills training for high-stake examination. Assessment, hence becomes the sole goal of learning. Wong (2018) described this unique use of assessment in Confucian societies as Assessment IS Learning (AIL), which is largely against the idea behind formative assessment for adjusting instruction based on student's achievement (Black & Wiliam, 2009). In this paper, the concept of AIL will be used to first explicate the distortion of Hong Kong's education system from a local and global perspective. Other social-cultural factors such as elitism and capitalism contributing to the exacerbation of the unhealthy trend influenced by AIL will also be discussed and explained.

Yan Kin Cheung Adrian

The University of Hong Kong

School Curriculum and Identity Politics in Hong Kong: An Educational Perspective

Abstract

The latest identity politics in post-colonial Hong Kong goes to the calls for Hong Kong independence by some interest groups since 2016, resulting in state of social schism characterized by the demarcation between local and national identities. Meanwhile, citizenship education has been woven into the controversy when the public raises concerns on the impact of such identity politics on the education sector. While the existing bulk of literature has been devoted to understanding their political connotations in the public sphere, few studies have examined the impact of identity politics on young people in school settings.

This paper examines the case of Liberal Studies, a compulsory social studies subject in Hong Kong, and addresses the research gap by offering empirical evidence on teacher's classroom encounters in coping with students' competing views on identity politics and facilitating students' critical thinking through deliberative practices in discussing socio-political issues.

Drawing on Bernstein's classification and framing of curricular knowledge, qualitative data collected from a sample of Liberal Studies teachers suggested that the subject's curriculum design, in contrast to other compulsory school subjects, has provided subject teachers with greater autonomy in organizing lesson proceedings to respond to students' enquiries on political controversies and facilitate students' cultivation of their local, national and global identities. The educational perspective thus presents a curricular standpoint in understanding the roles of schools and teachers in constructing an open classroom atmosphere where alternative views are respected and tolerated, which echoes with the central tenet of citizenship education.

Cheung Ka Lok Adam and Anita Kit-Wa Chan

Hong Kong Baptist University, The Education University of Hong Kong

Single-Sex Schooling, Gender and STEM Career Aspiration in Hong Kong

Abstract

The current study aims to examine the relationship between single-sex schooling, gender and STEM career aspiration in Hong Kong, and investigate the possible mediating mechanisms. In 2017, we conducted a representative student survey in Hong Kong to collect students' perceptions about STEM education and their intention to study and work in STEM-related fields. The target population of this study are all Secondary 5 (11th Grade) students from government, subsidized, or direct-subsidy scheme secondary schools who are enrolled in the mainstream curriculum (HKDSE). A two-stage stratified sampling strategy was adopted for the survey. In total, 2,807 students from 43 secondary schools completed the interviews. We structured our data in two levels: individual-level and school-level. We ran a series of random-intercepts linear models to estimate the association between single-sex schooling and STEM career aspiration for male and female students. Results of the multilevel models show that girls in all-girls schools are more into STEM fields, while boy-schools hurt boys STEM job aspiration. Some intervening variables such as gender essentialist ideology and math self-concepts, can predict the STEM job aspirations.

Panel 1.5
Gender, Marriage, and Family

LUO Xing & Lee Trevor Tsz-Lok
Lingnan University, The Education University of Hong Kong

Main Patterns and Determinants of Married Women's Support to Parents and Parents-in-law in China

Abstract

Filial support has been recognised as a main source of social support for China's aging population. Upward intergenerational support is not gender-neutral, and not homogeneous among parents and in-laws. While sons are conventionally mostly expected to perform filial obligations, adult daughters have played an important role in supporting their parents and the larger family unit in contemporary China. However, the support behaviours of married women have been under-researched. Drawing on representative nationwide data from Chinese General Social Survey in 2006, therefore, this study investigates the patterns and determinants of financial support and instrumental support (e.g., helping with household chores) provided by married women to their parents and parents-in-law. Results show that there were no difference in the type and frequency of support provided by married women to parents and parents-in-law. Married women with more socio-economic resources tended to provide more financial support to parents and parents-in-law while only the annual income was positively linked to instrumental support to parents. Married women were also more likely to support their parents and parents-in-law financially and instrumentally if they received instrumental support from parents and either type of support from parents-in-law. In addition, married women having children tended to provide more financial support to parents and instrumental support to parents-in-law than those with no children. The number of siblings and siblings-in-law was positively related to financial support towards parents and parents-in-law. Furthermore, instrumental support to parents and parents-in-law was positively related to geographic proximity.

Hai Yen Thi Nguyen

Chulalongkorn University

Son Preference and Women's Fertility Desires in Developing Countries: New Empirical Evident from Vietnam

Abstract

This paper aims to investigate whether of the variation in son preferences can explain the variation in fertility desires both over time and across regions and describing trend and pattern of fertility desires in Vietnam. A coordinated analysis technique and maximum likelihood estimation with probit model are included to examine the impact of sex ratio at birth and sex composition of children on the fertility desire. The paper uses data Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey namely 2000, 2006, 2011 and 2014. The broad-brush preliminary results show that the number of children and gender of children that women have will effect on her fertility desire. Mothers who have one child that is a girl having higher potential fertility desire compare with others. There is indeed a positive relationship between son preference and fertility desire in Vietnam. Women who do not have at least one son have the highest fertility desire. Vietnamese parents believe boys are more valuable than girls. Unless the son is born, the woman will be under pressure from her husband's family, especially her mother-in-law and her husband. Without having a son, the husband would be discriminated, even mocked as "weak or poor" by his friends, his relatives, and his colleagues. If parents do not have a son, it is considered as not having the next generation because of a lost family name. The findings can potentially have some policy implications for specific Vietnamese fertility policy.

Yip Pui Chi Tangi

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Housing Inequality and Marriage Inequality: A Case Study of Hong Kong

Abstract

Marriage inequality addresses different access to marriage as well as the relative positions and attractiveness in the marriage market, resulted in distinctive experience in the road to marriage. Although there has been increasing interests in marriage inequality among scholars, far too little attention has been paid to the role of housing inequality in the creation of marriage inequality. Recent studies suggest that housing inequality has contributed to the worsening problem of social inequalities. House prices in major cities have increased rapidly. Low housing affordability implies that the option of homeownership is completely out of reach for many. In particular, this has forced young people to consider other housing alternatives in their entrance of marriage, such as co-residing with parents or parents-in-law after marriage or house rental. However, these options are culturally seen as less preferable choices. In fact, housing inequality does not stand alone, but also exerts impacts on other dimensions of marriage, such as shaping the expectations and qualities over mate preference, conflicting wedding-related decisions and influencing couples' patterns of household expenditure after marriage. Based on 30 in-depth interviews with young people aged between 20-38 in Hong Kong, this research shows the role and complexities of gender in shaping distinctive expectations and experience in housing and marriage.

He Yunbing, Yang Xuehui & Xu Hui
City University of Hong Kong

"Bring the State Back in": Labor Politics in Xi's Era

Abstract

Since President Xi took the office, we have observed a range of policy changes and institutional reorganizations across the country to stabilize labour relations. In this article, we summarize these changes and explain why they occur by adopting the concept of "the bounded autonomy". Unlike Marxists and neo-liberalists' views, we argue that after economic reforms, the Chinese state has strong autonomy in managing labour relations. Meanwhile, the party-state's autonomy is bounded by multiple factors including economic performance, social activism, and the dominant ideology. In Xi's era, the stepped-up efforts of party-state in nationwide ideology-building campaigns in both state and non-state sectors, alongside the commitment to maintaining a so-called "medium-high rate" of economic growth, indicate that it is going to strengthen its ideological legitimacy over performance legitimacy, when its declining economic performance began to fail to sustain a high level of legitimacy. The party-state also demobilizes social activism through several strategies including adopting "mass line" approach in conflict resolution, carrying out a new round of union reform and criminalizing labour activism as "in collusion with foreign hostile forces". From these changes, we may argue that the party-state's interests now are neither completely in alignment with the global and private capital nor with other social groups. But we suppose that these efforts will hardly stabilize labour relations. In the future, we may see a stronger state intervention in the market that will cause resistance from economic elites, or the state may have to deal with stronger ideological challenges from its people.

Chen Wei
Nanjing University

Critical Events and Chinese Labor Movement: The Occurrence and Mobilization of Union-Led Pretest in China

Abstract

Previous studies on social movement in western society have examined the impacts of large-scale events that are influential to the movements. Yet, very little attention has been paid to the realm of labor movement, particularly in authoritarian regimes. In this paper, I intend to provide an alternative perspective of critical events to add up to the existing literature, by identifying the role and function of various types of "critical events" in making the issues on labor contention salient and sustainable.

Most of the recent labor protests observed in China now are event-driven, regarding the waves of factory transformation scheme. Under such economic environment, this paper focuses on the emergence and mobilization of union-led protest in the authoritarian governance. It argues that, although the current political space is still narrow for the occurrence of union-led protest, the critical events in different forms could create the chance for the energized workplace unionism, which could be utilized by the unionists to facilitate to the outcomes of labor protests.

Hou Zhe & Chen Wei
Shanghai Academy of Social Science, Nanjing University

Working Class in the "Educational Revolution"

Abstract

Since its very beginning, the "Cultural Revolution" had been targeted to confront the bourgeois reactionary line within the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The Constitution of CCP identified itself as the vanguard of both the Chinese working class and the Chinese people. However, during the "education revolution" that occurred in the "Cultural Revolution", the revolutionary committee had actually replaced the CCP organizations. In effect, the working class became the real leadership of the "education revolution". The existing studies have ignored the fact of the changing status of working class leadership in the revolution. Then, how did it happen? And further, why did it fail eventually?

The legitimacy in working class being the leadership came from the ideology of the "education revolution". "Education works for the proletariat politics" and "education should be combined with physical labor and production" constituted the ideology of the "education revolution". The former confirmed the political status of the working class, while the latter appreciated the practical experiences of the working class.

In the "education revolution", working class behaved actively both as participants and leading roles. The workers' propaganda team performed as the leading body of the working class in the "education revolution". On the one hand, the major participants in the "education revolution" were students and teachers. Worker-peasant-soldier students were the working class in the forms of students. While on the other hand, the slogan of learning from the worker-peasant-soldier students had endowed the working class the role of teachers. However, lacking the education experience, it utterly ended in the failure of the working class in the "education revolution". They gradually retreated from the education system to respond to the shortage in labor forces in factories.

Lin Lin

The University of Hong Kong

Exploring Biopower and Algorithmic Control in Platform Economy: Deliveroo Drivers and Food Tech in Hong Kong

Abstract

Based on the ethnographic research on the food delivery drivers working for digital platforms/take-away APPs in Hong Kong, this study discerns how digital platforms with their invisible infrastructure has an impact on modern low-skilled and low-income service labor. In this on-demand modern service economy, I argue that the invisibility and precarity of platform labor that implemented and controlled by algorithmic power has demonstrated Foucauldian idea of 'biopower' in threefold: (1) food delivery drivers consider the flexibility of app-based employment – "being your own boss" – as empowerment, until the "disruption" of legislative power or patriarchy in driver's ethnic bonding; (2) the algorithmic power in the discourse of on-demand economy plays an essential role, but the post-colonial computing - the implementation of a universal algorithm - yearns for local knowledge in labor process in a subtle way; (3) in exchanging both their menial labor and the communicative and cooperative capacities for a wage, drivers become "biopolitical labor", which yet struggling for labor justice across the globe.

Kaxton Siu

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Women Garment Workers, Life-Cycle Stages, and Work/Family Dynamics in Hong Kong amid Changing Factory Regimes: A Working Class History

Abstract

Once the world's largest garment exporters to Western markets, Hong Kong's garment industry underwent a rapid and dramatic transformation from boom to bust between the 1960s and the 1990s. Behind this swift transformation lay changing work practices, labor market conditions, and production and reproduction processes that resulted in Hong Kong female garment workers' changing life-cycle stages, shifting work/ family responsibilities, and their relationships with factory managements. By tracing women garment workers' work histories and life-cycle stages alongside the transformation of local production politics and the global production environment, this paper discovers a change in Hong Kong's garment factory regime from "paternalism" vis-a-vis women workers with children to "patron-clientalism" during this boom-to-bust period. Conceptually, this paper argues that Hong Kong's garment industry in the 1960s and the 1970s was a modern example of Marx's concept of formal subsumption of labor, exemplified in workers' skills level, production scale, subcontracting and homework systems, as well as workers' extremely long daily working hours. However, opposite to Marx's classic argument that workers' production lives determine their non-work lives, this paper argues that Hong Kong women garment workers' family responsibilities were always a lever in shaping the garment labor process, resulting in a more lenient and non-coercive factory regime.

Jack Barbalet	Guanxi before Guanxi: Social Connections in late Republican China
Paul Joosse	How Enemies, Competitors, and Onlookers Contribute to Charisma: The Case of Donald Trump
Matthew Ming-tak Chew	A New Social Theoretical Critique of Mainstream Psychological Research: Why We Need It and How to Begin Developing It

Jack Barbalet
Hong Kong Baptist University

Guanxi before Guanxi: Social Connections in late Republican China

Abstract

It is frequently held that guanxi is an historically persisting element of Chinese social structure that has its roots in Confucian thought and practices. It is of particular interest, then, that it is difficult to locate any explicit discussion of guanxi in late Republican accounts of Chinese social relationships. And yet a number of writers, in articles published over the last few years, have claimed that the notion of chaxugeju in Fei Xiaotong's 1947 book Xiangtu Zhongguo (translated as From the Soil by Hamilton and Wang), prefigures or provides a pioneering account of guanxi. Such claims are critically examined in the present paper, which draws on research conducted by a number of social scientists working in various regions of China prior to 1949.

Paul Joosse
The University of Hong Kong

How Enemies, Competitors, and Onlookers Contribute to Charisma: The Case of Donald Trump

Abstract

This paper conducts a negative reading of Weber's ideal type of charismatic authority, seeking to anticipate and discern hidden social interactants that are implicated in his descriptions of charismatic social processes. In so doing, the paper advances the "charismatic counter-role" as an umbrella term that captures the performative bearing of a variety of actors on processes of charismatic interaction. Specifically, in addition to devoted followers (already much discussed in the literature), this typology contains unworthy challengers (competitors who fall short when judged by the new terms of legitimacy that the charismatic leader creatively establishes); and colossal players (interlocutors that are appropriately "to scale" for highlighting the extraordinary missions to which the charismatic leader aspires). Together, these charismatic counter-roles interact in ways that comprise a charismatic social system that gives a better account than has heretofore been available for the unstoppable momentum of charismatic challenges. Using the "Trump phenomenon" of 2015–2016 as its empirical source, and employing analytical tools from symbolic interactionist and performative approaches to social theory, this paper has implications for future studies of how charisma destabilizes traditional and/or rational-legal social orders.

Matthew Ming-tak Chew
Hong Kong Baptist University

A New Social Theoretical Critique of Mainstream Psychological Research: Why We Need It and How to Begin Developing It

Abstract

Current critiques of mainstream psychological research, including those made by sociologists and critical psychologists, focus on psychology's lack of social and structural perspectives. This theoretical study argues that these critiques have to be renewed and supplemented by a very differently oriented critique due to a new trend initiated by mainstream psychological research.
The trend is the creation, popularization, and legal-political implementation of negative normative social scientific concepts with unconventional sociopolitical characteristics. In contrast to conventional negative normative social scientific concepts such as 'exploitation', 'patriarchy', 'heteronormativity', 'racism', , 'authoritarianism' or 'injustice' these new concepts are often used to help support elites and suppress the disadvantaged. Examples include 'antisocial behavior', 'aggression', 'unethical consumption', and 'bullying'. This study explicates why the old social critiques of psychology are not effective against these new concepts. For instance, psychologists can simply (and legitimately in my view) say they are practicing disciplinary division of labor. I develop an updated critique that does not rely on complaining that mainstream psychological research is not sufficiently sociological. Instead, I propose to fault it for its strategic and intentional avoidance of normative theorization. Moreover, my critique abandons the metatheoretical assumption that a sociological approach is inherently more sociopolitically progressive than a psychological one. Instead, it encourages interdisciplinary cooperation between mainstream psychology and critical theory. I outline how one can apply the new critique through normative theoretical engagement with the concept of cyberbullying.

Ling Tang
University of Oxford

Female Entrepreneurs in the Digital Age: How Different Urban Localities Shape Business and Gender Practices in Shenzhen and Hefei

Abstract

Based on multi-sided ethnography (Coleman & Hellermann, 2011) on female entrepreneurs in Shenzhen and Hefei in the digital age, the paper focuses on the different business ideas, ethics and practices as they relate to different urban localities. Whereas Shenzhen is a sub-provincial first-tier city constituted of intra-national immigrants and situated in the Cantonese cultural region where the economic reform enabled urbanisation only about four decades ago, Hefei is a prefecture-level second-tier city in central China with half the population of Shenzhen with intra-provincial immigrants but boasting a history of an important socio-political centre traceable back to the Han dynasty in the 2nd century. Assuming its new role as the innovation and technology hub of China, Shenzhen attracts university graduates with international experience who hold avantgarde and self-proclaimed meaningful ideas such as having a virtual-lover platform company in order to provide an emotional shelter. In contrast, the Hefei entrepreneurs are much more traditional in terms of their rationalised business ethics and practices where the Internet is treated as nothing more than a market place. Similarly, the informants in Hefei are bound by gender norms more tautly than the informants in Shenzhen.

Emelia Afi Agblevor & Gina Lai
Hong Kong Baptist University

Body Work among Urban Ghanaian Women: A Corporeal Realist Approach

Abstract

Following the Second World War and the outburst of a consumer culture, the body has increasingly become a site for both social and aesthetic purposes. Research in body work, that is, work performed on one's body for the purposes of aesthetics has particularly received attention due to its linkage with a presentation of a self –identity in a consumer culture. Most of these studies have however placed the preoccupation with body work and the creation of self identities with the West and its capitalism. A casual stroll in any part of the city Accra, the capital of Ghana in Africa however, reveals an abundance of billboards and sign posts of all shapes and sizes advertising various body work practices.
Going beyond the structure/ agency approach of past studies, this presentation theorizes body work practices through the corporeal realism of Shillings (2005/2012). Corporeal realism recognizes the body as possessing agency and capacities that cannot be reduced to social structures but capable of mediating social forces as an enfleshed entity. Drawing on in-depth interviews, this presentation will show that while urban Ghanaian women are influenced by many mainstream social media images as well as gendered ideals of what a Ghanaian woman should look like, they also utilize agency in making knowledgeable decisions to engage in body work practices. Corporeal realism provides an analysis that prioritizes the body key in how individuals create meanings for the body while paying attention to social structures.

David Matthew Edmonds

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

"I'm a F**ing Women": Misgendering as an Interactional Accomplishment

Abstract

Transgender people experience mistreatment at higher rates than other groups. One major issue is misgendering- others using incorrect pronouns or gendered terms to address transgender people. Research on misgendering has documented its extensive negative psycho-social effects, primarily through surveys and interviews (e.g. McLemore, 2015). However, misgendering has yet to be systematically examined as it unfolds in social interaction. Using conversation analysis, this paper examines how speakers deal with misgendering in social interaction. The analysis is based on a collection of 50 cases of misgendering, taken from video recordings of interactions across a range of settings.

The paper documents the diverse ways that misgendering is accomplished in social interaction. The analysis describes the common occurrence of "pronoun slips"; where someone self-corrects their use of an incorrect pronoun (e.g. correcting "he" to "she" when referring to a trans-woman). I discuss how such cases might reveal default social practices for referring to transgender people; where the default assumption is the person's 'original' or 'identifiable' gender. I also show how people respond to "being misgendered", through correcting another's misuse of terms. Being misgendered is a thoroughly multi-modal accomplishment, with recipients using various embodied resources (e.g. gesture, facial expression and body posture) to display their offense at such a moral breach.

The paper provides an empirically grounded understanding of an important social issue facing transgender people and further evidence of how gender is accomplished and maintained as a social category in interaction (e.g. West & Zimmerman, 1987).

Ting-Fai Yu

Leiden University

Uneven Spatialities and Queer People's Subjective Constructions of Homophobia in Hong Kong

Abstract

Informed by the concept of queer diffusions (Knopp & Brown 2003; Oswin 2006), this paper highlights the spatial logics governing the ways in which Hong Kong queer people perceive the local social climate. Based on in-depth interviews conducted with 28 Hong Kong gay men, it demonstrates that class has played a significant role in shaping how the interviewees developed understandings of homophobia. While the working-class gay men often considered Hong Kong homophobic, their middle-class counterparts have in a number of occasions described the city as "gay-friendly". This paper argues that this difference in the perception of Hong Kong a queer city was informed by the interviewees' different experiences of and uneven exposures to queer struggles in the West vis-à-vis their class locations, which exemplify a historically specific cosmopolitan condition that has enabled some a more spatially encompassing understanding of homophobia than others. Seeing spatial hierarchies as contingent rather than static, this paper concludes by highlighting how a spatial perspective contributes to the project of queer knowledge production in Asia and toward problematizing the linear narrative that envisions the West as the ultimate site of queer liberation.

Cai Tianji
University of Macau

Same "One Country Two Systems", Different Outcomes: A Comparative Study of National identity Between Hong Kong and Macau

Abstract

The past two decades witnessed dramatically demographic, political, economic and social changes in Hong Kong and Macau after transferring of sovereignty over to China. As a sense of belongingness among individuals in a society, national identity receives great attention in comparative studies.

Although both of their economies grew and merged to China, Hong Kong experienced a rapid growing of Hong Kong identity which focuses on local experiences and concerns that distinguish them from the mainland Chinese; while people in Macau seem more likely to accept the state-defined Chinese national identity.

Taking advantage of newly released data from both Hong Kong Panel Study of Social Dynamics (2015) and Macau Social Survey (2017), the current study seeks to understand the widening gap on Chinese national identity between the two adjacent areas, and to identify possible factors behind the perspective of historical or cultural heritage.

Chan Kato & Wang Liping
The University of Hong Kong

De-nationalize the nationalizing: the cases of Inner Mongolia and Hong Kong

Abstract

Nation-building is an ongoing process in modern China, which underwent dramatic social changes from revolution to economic reform. In the post-socialist era, with the deepening of marketization and the concomitant decline of the revolutionary ideology, China has to rejuvenate a national identity that could accommodate the potentially de-nationalizing forces arising in different sites. Our paper examines two such challenges: the pursuit of traditionalist/ primordial identity among the ethnic minorities (in particular the Mongols), and the hold on cosmopolitanism in Hong Kong. In socialist China, the ethnic identity of minorities was articulated and strengthened through the institutional and cultural building that boosted their affiliation with the state. Yet, since the economic reform, ethnic minorities are apparently marginalized in a discriminative modernization led by the Han. The turn toward ethno-cultural tradition is a reaction to this new situation. In the case of Hong Kong, British colonial rule made it a cosmopolitan city where Han culture is only one of the multiple layers of cosmopolitan identification. Hong Kong people's attachment to Han culture is historically weaker when they are situated along the periphery of the culture. In face of nationalizing imposed by China, as cosmopolitan citizens, Hong Kong people are reluctant to identify as a member of Chinese nation. While ethno-cultural tradition is not their major concern, the cosmopolitan lifestyle became the alternative which they can grab onto as de-nationalizing forces. Mongols and Hong Kong people are both experiencing nationalizing dominated by China, but it is understood differently by Mongols and Hong Kong people.

Ho Wai Chung
Hong Kong Baptist University

Teachers' Perspectives on Teaching Music Cultures: From Multiculturalism to Nationalism

Abstract

Education has become a major arena for political reasons and for political competition in transitional or changing societies, as the case of Taiwan has revealed. Based on the present political situation, an ongoing study has explored school music education in Taiwan, which has been shaped by the challenges and struggles influenced by the current political situation in teacher education. The study has also focused on survey data collected from pre-service and in-service music teachers since Spring 2018, which continues to be collected. Based on the perceptions of pre-service and in-service music teachers on school music education, two major questions have been explored in the study in response to the changing society of Taiwan: (1) how do teachers respond to musical learning related to global, Chinese, and local cultures; and (2) how do teachers react to nationalistic education in school music education? The findings thus far have shown that Taiwanese teachers agree that the teaching of local music is far more important than teaching traditional Chinese music and patriotic music. However, they generally agree that it is essential to introduce traditional Chinese music and Chinese folk music into the curriculum. Nonetheless, Chinese patriotic songs and the national anthem are comparatively not welcome in their teaching. This paper will argue that there may be a cultural gap between multicultural, Chinese, and Taiwanese local music, and will attempt to address the question of nationalism in contemporary music education in Taiwan.

DU Yi
Hong Kong Baptist University

Understanding the Nation: Young People's Online Music Creating and Listening Practices in Contemporary China: A Study of Banal Nationalism in the Chinese Context

Abstract

People express their national identity not only through hot nationalist sentiments, but also in their daily conversations and practices. The theory of banal nationalism highlights the everyday routines and discourses through which mundane national sentiments are produced. In China, a number of young people are engaged in the creation of Ancient Chinese-style songs which, incidentally, reveal understanding of their national identity. Ancient Chinese-style songs (Gufeng 古风 in Chinese), a variety of digital songs that are created by young netizens online with special emphasis on traditional Chinese elements, provides data through which young people's interpretation and performance of national identity in their daily lives can be examined. Drawing on the theory of banal nationalism, this research analyzes the participants' construction of their national identity in music creating and listening activities. The research uses the qualitative method of web content analysis in order to understand the song lyrics and listeners' comments on the songs. The analysis presented here reveals various aspects of the participants' sense of banal nationhood. Findings show that the participants in Ancient Chinese-style songs not only provide multiple interpretations of national culture and history, but also engage in embodied performance of the nation through music creating and listening activities. It is argued here that the young people exercise agency in their interpretation of the nation. Moreover, the diverse expressions of banal national sentiment created by the participants in this music style suggests that cultural traditions are not only the stereotyped concepts identified in hot nationalism studies, but that they also include everyday experiences that the young music lovers identify with.

Wang Tianxing

Xiamen University

Development of Prospect of General Education

Abstract

There has not been a consistent understanding on general education although it has become a popular term. By conceptualizing the term "general education" and summarizing its development in western countries and China, this essay sets out to examine the core of general education. Meanwhile, by comparing the educational practice in Fudan University and Harvard University, this essay also examines the problems inherent in China's cultural quality education, a term being used to denote general education in the west.

Truc Ngoc Hoang Dang

Chulalongkorn University

Education Investment and Benefits to Subjective Well-being in later Life: Gender Differences

Abstract

Vietnam is one of world's fastest ageing while policies for the elderly change slowly and some are inefficient. This article is an attempt to contribute to the development of well-being care policy for elderly persons in Vietnam through education investment as they face a series of disadvantages in their lives, such as economics, employment, family and society transitions. The first representative national survey on ageing in Vietnam in 2011 is used in this paper. Moreover, within Confucian tradition, men are expected to perpetuate patriarchal system across generations, maintain the family honor, and educate women in the family. Women should follow and obey her father, then once married, depend on husband, and after husband died, follow her son. Old women in Vietnam usually have low education and technical expertise, depend on her husband economy in early life and get risks at old ages due to lack of pension and formal supports. Therefore, this study investigates the differences by gender in terms of relationship between education and subjective well-being in later life by using ordered-logistic regression. Results revealed that older women have lower odds of happiness, higher odds of loneliness and depression than older men. Besides, education has strong positive relationship with happiness, negative relationship with loneliness and depression. Other factors, such as feeling sufficient income and support, living arrangement, poor household, Daily Life Activities difficulty, social networks, ages, region, number of daughters, marital status have relationship with subjective well-being. Whereas, working status, number of sons, having grandchild are insignificant differences.

Yang Xiuqi

The University of Hong Kong

The Maternal Educational Involvement of Rural Left-Behind Women: A Bi-Directional Assessment

Abstract

Rural-urban migration has reshaped the residential structure of many rural families in contemporary China. The left-behind duo, i.e., left-behind mother and their child, has been the dominant family type. Both of them have respectively attracted a fair amount of scholarly attention. However, empirical evidence has been scarce in terms of the mechanism directly related to the parent-child dyad, or more specifically, the mother-child relationship. Past educational research has continuously revealed that family matters more than the school does in forming and maintaining educational inequality. Among the parental indicators, educational expectation and involvement are among the most used, which has shown to exert significant impact on children's education. However, the efficacy of parental involvement may be conditioned upon how they would be perceived or assimilated by their children. To our knowledge, no research yet has related this issue to left-behind mothers and their kid(s). In this study, we ask whether paternal leave could affect mothers' expectation of and involvement in their children and also examine how the child perceives his/her mother's report. Overall, drawing upon The China Education Panel Survey 2013-2014 data and using Multiple Linear Regression, the research involves following steps: First, from both mothers' self report and children' assessment, we analyse whether maternal educational expectation and involvement differed due to left-behind situation. Second, we analyse how children perceived maternal educational involvement. In each step, potential child-gender differences are also taken into account. We found that educational expectation and involvement of rural left-behind mothers were significantly lower than the non-left-behind mothers and girls could better perceive maternal involvement yet this gender vantage disappeared in the left-behind family.

Gan Yiqing

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Will Teenagers Take on the Color of Neighbors? A Comparison of Educational Expectation Between Migrant Teenagers and Native Teenagers in Urban China

Abstract

Educational expectation has long been shown to be very important in status attainment. The question why some teenagers hold a higher educational expectation while others are less ambitious deserves great attention. Prior studies argue that family SES and school context are two major contributors. However, teenager's living environment, especially neighbors, is surprisingly neglected in the discussion. China is an ideal laboratory for examining the variation of teenager's educational expectation. Chinese cities accommodate numerous migrant teenagers, who usually hold a lower educational expectation than native counterparts. How much neighbors contribute to this disparity remains unknown. Using the China Education Panel Survey in 2013-14, we found the job status of neighbors positively affects the educational expectation of native teenagers only. Once the selection of living environment adjusted, neighbor effect disappears both for the two groups. Our findings suggest neighbors have not been a source of educational expectation division in the current China. Reasons and policy implications are discussed.

Cheung Chun Ho	A Study of the Mobilizing Force of Facebook on Political Participation among Hong Kong Youth: The Mediating Role of Connections with Political Actors and Exposure to Political Information
Edmund W. Cheng	From Mitigating to Utilizing Dissent: Regime's Mechanisms of Counter-Mobilization in Hong Kong
Cheris Shun-Ching Chan	Lasting Struggle: Ideology, Frame Transformation, and Collective Action of The Falun Gong Movement

Cheung Chun Ho
Lingnan University

A Study of the Mobilizing Force of Facebook on Political Participation among Hong Kong Youth: The Mediating Role of Connections with Political Actors and Exposure to Political Information

Abstract

Social networking sites are increasingly used for political conversations and debates (Zhang et al., 2010). In Hong Kong, the development of social media has provided a convenient platforms for stakeholders in the political arena to publicize their ideas, reach out to their followers and even help the process of political campaigning. Based on prior researches conducted by Tang and Lee (2013) and Shamsu, Bahtiar and Suhaini (2017), this study would like to examine the roles of Facebook in facilitating connections with political actors and sharing political information among users. Other than the "purely numeric" indicators which measure the amount of political actors respondents associate with and the extent of exposure to political information on Facebook, this research also would look into the impacts of the "more subjective" aspects including the level of interactivity with political actor and perceived information quality of Facebook as the predictors of political participation among Hong Kong youth. This research would adopt a quantitative approach and specifically focus on studying the use of social networking sites among the young generation in Hong Kong who are generally regarded as "digital natives" and "critical citizens" (Fu, 2013). A questionnaire survey was conducted in September 2018 and 325 questionnaires were collected. Borrowing from the concepts of the public sphere and social capital, it would explore the relationship between social media usage, exposure to political information and individual political participation and provide alternative explanations on the mediating effects of social media on political participation among local youth in Hong Kong.

Edmund W. Cheng

Hong Kong Baptist University

From Mitigating to Utilizing Dissent: Regime's Mechanisms of Counter-Mobilization in Hong Kong

Abstract

This paper examines the Hong Kong hybrid regime's mechanisms of counter-mobilization that arose from mass protests. It reveals how the united-front and mass-line strategies historically rooted in communist state apparatuses have diffused into a hybrid regime, which established a hierarchical yet decentralized corporatist structure to enable elite cohesion and manage social contention. Contrary to Mainland China where these repertoires are highly dependent on coercive capacity, in the Hong Kong SAR, these political tasks are outsourced to communal-based societies, revered institutions, and grassroots actors. The multifaceted strategies deepened social penetration, practiced targeted coercion, and fostered "no-go zone" without generating a strong sense of oppression among the populace. However, the fragmented non-state agents also muddled the regime's designated targets from radical localists to moderate pan-democrats to prolong instability. Regime resilience is thus illustrated in terms of how it can survive protests and can instigate incentive mechanisms and ambiguous boundaries to mitigate and utilize dissent.

Cheris Shun-Ching Chan

The University of Hong Kong

Lasting Struggle: Ideology, Frame Transformation, and Collective Action of The Falun Gong Movement

Abstract

As one of the most popular qigong groups in China, the Falun Gong captured the world's attention and inspired voluminous scholarly research during its tumultuous times in the 1990s. However, it has lost public support and drawn less attention from the media and academia in recent years, despite having undergone a striking transformation. The FLG of the 1990s emphasized their peaceful nature especially in demonstrations before and during the crackdown from the Chinese state in 1999. In contrast, FLG followers in the 2010s are unashamed of their "radical" image and publicly display their mission of overthrowing the Chinese Communist Party. Based on a social movement framework, this project seeks to understand changes in the FLG by examining the interplay of micro and macro factors in the process. Using the FLG as a case, this research is aimed at unpacking and theorizing the evolution of a quasi-religious movement in relation to the movement's ideological content, the role of its charismatic leader, the actions of the state authorities, and the immediate socio-political forces. In particular, this project traces the transformation of FLG's collective actions and the ways they framed their actions over two decades from the mid-1990s to the mid -2010s. It identifies changes in their collection action frames over three periods of time: prior to the crackdown (1996-1999), during the crackdown (1999-2000), and after the crackdown (2000 – present). I examine how the FLG mobilized different ideological ideas to construct different action frames under different political contexts, and why their collective actions have turned radical after the crackdown period.

Sean Kenji Starrs	Does National Identity of Transnational Corporations Still Matter in the Age of Globalization?
Juliette Schwak	Neoliberal Nationalism and Competitive Citizenship: The Reconfiguration of National Belonging in Post-Developmental Korea
Carminati Daniele	Soft Power and National Identity Construction: China's Efforts in Thailand

Sean Kenji Starrs
City University of Hong Kong

Does National Identity of Transnational Corporations Still Matter in the Age of Globalization?

Abstract

As Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping ramp up the worst trade war the world has seen since the 1930s, it is time to rethink a debate that arose in the context of globalization since the 1990s: on whether the nationality of capital still matters in a supposedly increasingly supranational or even "nation-less", global political economy. With a resurgence of nationalism around the world, including in East Asia, this paper argues that the nationality of giant transnational corporations has always mattered even as the world's top corporations expand their operations around the globe. There were two main problems in the debate from the 1990s: an impoverished state theory and an impoverished empirical analysis. This paper will begin to address both, especially by presenting never-before-seen data on global corporate ownership structures that imply the continued relevance of corporate national identity in the twenty-first century, especially in East Asia (China, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan) but also in the United States. As geopolitical tensions in the region mount and many Western voters turn their ire against globalization, this research will shed light on the relationships between national corporations with international operations and the national populations in which they are home-based—in order to contribute to debates on the future of power in world order.

Juliette Schwak

Tokyo International University

Neoliberal Nationalism and Competitive Citizenship: The Reconfiguration of National Belonging in Post-Developmental Korea

Abstract

This paper explores the reconfiguration of citizenship at play under the hegemonic economic imaginary of global competitiveness. It explores how citizenship is reconceived in competition states through an ideal of national belonging corresponding to what I call neoliberal nationalism- a market-based form of national recognition in which individual entrepreneurial qualities are to be channelled towards successful national accumulation. Nation branding, the practice of using marketing techniques to reveal the competitive essence of a nation and project it as a brand, can be analysed as one of the key devices of neoliberal nationalism and the reconfiguration of national belonging towards competitive citizenship. In nation branding discourses, national competitiveness is portrayed and internalized by its actors through a war-like paradigm, with the world stage as a battlefield of competitive capitalist singularities. This market-embedded differentiation imperative, at the heart of discourses on global competitiveness, explains the emergence of a form of neoliberal nationalism, in which citizenship is indexed on the possibility of attaining a national competitive edge in the post-industrial economy. In particular, this paper focuses on the case study of the Republic of Korea (ROK), where conceptions of citizenship and economic nationalism have evolved after the transition to a post-developmental political economy, but where the imperative of becoming and being recognized as a competitive site of capital accumulation has been a central political agenda from the 1960s.

Carminati Daniele

City University of Hong Kong

Soft Power and National Identity Construction: China's Efforts in Thailand

Abstract

Joseph Nye's concept of soft power is increasingly valued across the globe, in spite of some criticism. Yet China, as a major growing power, has been boosting its efforts to promote its 'soft' influence in the past decade, both in its 'backyard' and beyond. Whether these grand strategies are effective or not, it may be too early to say. However, as Lee Kuan Yew, the former prime minister of Singapore, and Nye himself claimed, a fundamental aspect of developing and affirming soft power influence is to create a compelling story for the broadest possible audience, in line with the country's conduct. The US may be known to have mastered this 'skill', not without facing several obstacles, but its resilience is widely recognized. In order to achieve this, a clear and well-defined national image, brand, or identity, should be created. How is China performing when considering this aspect? Is the country on the right track? This paper will analyze official policy, documents and statements from the Chinese government to be juxtaposed with the perception of the receiving audience, and whether these views are aligned or not. Thailand, as a neighboring country with a large and well-integrated Chinese diaspora, is the select case study. Interviews with scholars, politicians, journalists, and businesspeople will be combined with the opinion of the people collected through surveys and secondary data from various institutions. The final goal is to assess how China aims to promote its image and how successful its efforts are proving to be.

Zhuoni Zhang
City University of Hong Kong

Does Distance Make the Heart Grow Fonder? Social Contact and Attitudes toward Chinese Mainlanders in Hong Kong

Abstract

The past decades have witnessed waves of anti-outgroups movements around the world. Against this background, anti-mainlanders movements in Hong Kong have become under the spotlight in recent years. While mainlanders are outgroups to Hong Kong residents, unlike people's attitudes toward outgroups in western societies, there is not much issue of ethnicity, religion, or labor market competition involved regarding Hong Kong people's attitudes toward mainlanders. This study examines the determinants of Hong Kong people's attitudes toward Chinese mainlanders and pays particular attention to the role of social contact between local residents and mainlanders. Using data from the Hong Kong Panel Study of Social Dynamics, we find that around one in five Hong Kong people holds unfavorable attitudes toward Chinese mainlanders. People who were born in HK, live near metro stations with influx of mainlanders, have never been to mainland, or cannot speak fluent Mandarin, are more likely to hold unfavorable attitudes. Females and people who are younger, single, unemployed or economically inactive, living in neighborhood with lower SES, and those whose parents were born in HK, also tend to have negative attitudes. Furthermore, multiple analyses show that social contact is significantly related to attitudes toward outgroups, and type of social contact matters. Social contact with mainland visitors leads to unfavorable attitudes, but contact that potentially increases understanding or develops friendship leads to positive attitudes toward mainlanders.

Duoduo Xu

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

How Does Your Neighbor's Intergroup Bias Affect Your Social Identity? The Case of Hong Kong

Abstract

Recent political unrest and social movements in Hong Kong have contributed to a sharp deterioration of the Hong Kong-Mainland China relations. The political polarization among the general population and the rise of localism among certain groups have provoked a heated discussion on the social cleavage in Hong Kong. Using data from the Hong Kong Panel Study of Social Dynamics (HKPSSD) survey, we aim to investigate how people's group identity is shaped by the social environment of residential neighborhood, and whether this impact is contingent on one's social origin. Empirical results show that, when neighbors have low level of intergroup bias against mainlanders, residents within the neighborhood share a common identity despite of their places of birth; when neighbors have high level of intergroup bias against mainlanders, people tend to emphasize their own group identity based on social origins. Particularly, mainland-born Hong Kong residents exhibit stronger Chinese identity and weaker Hongkonger identity when living with biased neighbors. The findings reveal that, tolerance brings people together, prejudice drives people apart. While a friendly neighborhood environment promotes harmonious coexistence of people from various social origins, a hostile neighborhood environment reinforces peoples' perceived group differences, and consequently leads to an identity divergence or even group conflicts.

Zhonglu Li

Shenzhen University

Social Policy and Political Trust: Evidence from the New Rural Pension Scheme in China

Abstract

This article analyses the data from the 2010 Chinese General Social Survey (CGSS) to investigate the effects of the New Rural Pension Scheme (NRPS) on people's political trust and policy expectations in China. Results from difference-in-differences (DID) analyses show that those in the NRPS pilot areas reported higher levels of trust in government at both central and local levels than their counterparts in non-NRPS areas, with the former gaining more support than the latter. Moreover, the potential NRPS beneficiaries show similarly higher levels of trust in both central and local governments than non-NRPS beneficiaries. However, the policy did not increase rural residents' rights consciousness that the government should take the main responsibility for the provision of the old-age support. These findings suggest that citizens' political trust under an authoritarian regime is mainly determined by the material benefits they receive.

Wang Senhu

University of Cambridge

"Revisiting" the "Parallel Lives" Thesis: Neighbourhood Attachment and Residential Integration of Ethnic Minorities in England

Abstract

Recent debates about the failures of multiculturalism have questioned whether ethnic minorities gradually integrate into the British society or instead lead "parallel lives" in segregated communities. Using nationally representative data (2011 – 2012), we contribute to the debate by investigating the associations between ethnic minority neighbourhood attachment and neighbourhood ethnic composition. Our results show that although all ethnic minorities report higher neighbourhood attachment than White British as local share of coethnics increases, the associations are not significant. However, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis, and Indians do report significantly weaker neighbourhood attachment than do White British as the local share of White British increases. Importantly, we find that these patterns are particularly pronounced for second‐generation Pakistanis and Bangladeshis as compared with their first‐generation counterparts. These findings suggest that ethnic residential mixing does not automatically imply residential integration and there may be a risk of increasing ethnic segregation among the younger generations of Pakistanis and Bangladeshis.

Dingchuan Qiu & Jianhua Xu
University of Macau

The Political Economy of Private Policing in China: The Case of JS Company in Southern China

Abstract

Using data collected from institutional ethnography in a private security company in Z city, this paper examines the political economy of private policing in China. More specifically, it explores how private security company makes connections (e.g. corruption, hiring former police officers) with the public police to secure outsourced public police duties as business and to seek protection for their gray or illegal practices. In return, the private security company performs the unwanted "dirty work" for the public police. The research not only contributes to the understanding of a booming private security industry, but also shed light on how the public police incorporate private security to enhance its control capacity in China.

Qipu Hu & Jianhua Xu

University of Macau

How Crimes Disappear from Official Statistics: The Observation from a Local Police Station in China

Abstract

It is widely acknowledged that official crime statistics are manipulated in China. However, empirical research about how the manipulation is actually achieved is rather limited. With data collected through institutional ethnography in a local police station in China, we identified four mechanisms by which the police used to manipulate official crime statistics. These mechanisms included (1) promoting local police phone number instead of centralized police hotline, (2) preemptive policing of driving away potential trouble makers, fishing law enforcement of potential offenders, and hardening of possible targets, (3) monetarization of crime quota for frontline officers, and (4) pressured mediation between offenders and victims. The research contributes to a better understanding of corruption, misbehavior and alienation of police work in China.

Anli Jiang and Jianhua Xu

University of Macau

Understanding Chinese Para-Police Chenguan's Soft Law Enforcement: A Dirty Institution Perspective

Abstract

China's para-police chengguan's abusive violence towards street vendors has been widely reported. However, most of encounters between chengguan and street vendors involve no violence. Based on three years ethnographic work in Guangzhou and Guilin, this research reveals the mechanism by which the soft law enforcement is achieved. We found that at the organization level, chengguan adopted a strategy of five-dimensional liquid control to reduce street vendors' resistance; at the individual level, the emotional law enforcement was widely practiced. We argue that both the liquid control and emotional law enforcement have their roots in chengguan's identity as a dirty institution in China.

Wei Haitao & Yao Hong
Central China Normal University, Minzu University of China

Culture in Migration: Young Educated Mainlanders in Hong Kong

Abstract

This article aims to tackle with the question of "what role culture plays in the migration." Through the case of young educated mainlanders in Hong Kong, it argues that the migrant's adaption to the host society depends on the mutual interplay between the distal and proximate cultural factors deriving from both societies across the border. Based on 21 in-depth interviews with the young mainlanders who finishes at least one year high-education and work experience in Hong Kong, we found that HONG KONG as an ad hoc cultural space provides the motivation to stay and pursue their career after graduation; however, the key to adapting the host society for them relies on the strategical and selective usage of cultural symbols from both host and origin society such as work style, individual worldview and friend-making habit. During the migration process, two salient cultural mechanisms emerge from the interview data: 1) culture reinforcing migrant's attraction to host society: the institutional milieu around them functions as a distal cultural system that reinforces migrants' attraction to the host society; 2)culture shaping the boundary-making process: those young migrants maneuver cultural resources, in which case culture as a tool kit, to establish the boundary between them and the local Hongkongers, which facilitates creating a sense of security to adopt the host society. In addition, the migrants who have a higher affinity with the culture of host society can more successfully adapt to their environment.

Feng Lei
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Making Chengzhongcun: Social Relations, Identity, and Space in Migrant's Everyday Lives

Abstract

Chengzhongcun as migrant settlements in the megacities of South China is widely believed to be an outcome of political economy and state policies. By contrast, this study explores how chengzhongcun can also be produced by migrants from within. Guided by Lefebvre's notion of everyday life, it looks at instances of migrants' social interaction in chengzhongcun to understand how migrants construct their identity and influence local spaces, and how the two processes interrelate. Based on an ethnography in Wu village, one of the largest migrant settlements in the north end of Guangzhou, this study unravels migrants' salient yet ambivalent roles in the making of the village: First, as strangers, migrants tend to live in the village alone and keep themselves distant from others; Second, migrants as community members may seek a sense of belonging but do not forsake their solitary lives; Third, migrants as brothers or lovers use their intimate relationships to achieve practical ends, so that their brotherhood and romance do not often endure. In sum, the loose, fragile ways by which migrants organize their social relations have largely denied the village its solidarity, although ephemeral forms of friendship and community can be developed therein. On this basis, this study argues that chengzhongcun cannot be readily perceived as a rural reality, a community, or a home of migrants. It thus questions a dual-city framework that works to single out chengzhongcun from the city, from a sort of urban experience shared by both migrants and "us".

Yao Hong and Wei Haitao

Minzu University of China, Central China Normal University

Beyond in-Betweenness: Self-Transformation of Highly Educated Mainland Immigrants in Hong Kong

Abstract

Purpose: This paper aims to understand the psychological state of "in-betweenness" among highly educated mainland immigrants in Hong Kong. In particular, this paper is to interpret meanings of their immigration from Mainland to Hong Kong.

Methodology: This study adopts data of 21 in-depth interviews. These informants are immigrates who have professional jobs in Hong Kong after completing their master degree in Hong Kong. Average length of interviews lasts 2 hours. Data storage and analysis are performed by Nvivo software.

Findings: Qualitative data analysis indicates that highly educated immigrants experienced a sense of in-between Mainland and Hong Kong. However, they are able to transcend the immigration disadvantages by acting as an intermediary role between Mainland China and Hong Kong, simultaneously, self-transformation as a working professionals were established as well.

Research limitations/implications: This study was confined to immigrants who are working professionals in Hong Kong, which suggested that future study may include immigrants with diverse background, such as entrepreneurs, to get a comprehensive view of their understandings of immigration.

Implications: This study contributes to immigration literature b pinpointing that immigration may be stressful for those highly educated mainlanders; however, they are able to transform by making fully use of their immigrant identity. Relevant psychosocial services should be designed to facilitate them to activate the mobilize their internal potential in order to realize environmental adjustment and personal growth.

Johanna von Pezold

The University of Hong Kong

Mutual Fashion Adaption in the Context of Chinese Migration to Mozambique

Abstract

Based on ethnographic field research in Maputo, Mozambique, this paper examines the multifaceted character of bottom-up cultural exchange among non-Western countries. More specifically, it explains why and how Chinese migrants and Mozambicans adopt elements of each other's fashion. Apart from offering a different perspective on China-Africa relations, this paper sheds light on the circulation of fashion and styles among non-Western countries, a topic which has been largely neglected by academic research.

Due to their variety and good quality-price ratio, Chinese fashion products are increasingly well-received by Mozambicans. In search for novel additions to their own style, both Chinese and Mozambicans become attracted by the exotic appeal of what they consider 'typical' of the other culture. The adoption of foreign ethnic dress components entails a certain exoticization of each other, which partly reiterates cultural ambiguities that already exist in the two countries. Different from many colonial and post-colonial contexts, Chinese-Mozambican fashion adaptation is motivated by the achievement of a novel, distinct and fashionable individual look, not the expression of progressivity or employability. To bring foreign aesthetics into accordance with culturally determined dress norms, Chinese and Mozambicans employ a set of strategies that allow them to gradually variate the degree to which they adapt to the other fashion.

This paper hereby demonstrates that the adaptation of fashion elements in the Chinese-Mozambican context has specific characteristics that distinguish it from fashion exchanges between Western and non-Western countries.

Ruan Ji	Social Exclusion and the Role of Guanxi against the Background of Social Stratification: Case Studies of Land Distribution in Two Chinese Villages
Sazhina, Olga	Social Protection for the Near Poor: Stratification and Inequality in Russia and China
WANG Xuanjing	The Contradictory Norms of the Rich in Present Day's China
Anson Au	Reconceptualizing Symbolic Violence and Social Stratification in Hong Kong International Student Migration: Towards an Intersectional Nexus of Capital Conversion Pathways
Shakarjyoti Saikia	The Music of the 'Tabla' as an Agent of Identity and Social Stratification in a Metropolis: Reflections on the Qualitative Studies of Institutes of Music in Delhi

Ruan Ji
Hanshan Normal University

Social Exclusion and the Role of Guanxi against the Background of Social Stratification: Case Studies of Land Distribution in Two Chinese Villages

Abstract

This paper is based on two case studies of residential land distribution in two Chinese villages between 2015 and 2018. Here, residential land allocation has shifted from a household-based process to a market-based process, resulting in spatial segregation and social exclusion of the poor. Three spatial divisions are clearly formed in both villages with villas area for the upper class, peasant apartments for the middle class, and old houses for the lower class. Five features of this exclusion are identified. 1) Some rich villagers use guanxi (personal connections) with village cadres to acquire more land and apartments in order to increase profit, leading to distribution exclusion of the poor who do not have guanxi. 2) Since poor young men can no longer obtain land in a traditional way for free, as was the case under the previous way of land distribution, and cannot afford to buy an apartment, and young women require their groom to have a new apartment or house, poor young men are excluded from the marriage market, resulting in shrinking guanxi networks, poor social capital, and loss of face. 3) The poor are excluded from ritual activities, since it is traditionally believed that a person with good luck will bring good luck to others while a person with bad luck will bring bad luck; this leads to a decline in the ritual capital held by the poor. 4) Due to the symmetrical characteristic of the renqing ethic, the poor are excluded from holding 'renqing activities' (traditional reciprocal activities such as banqueting and gift giving). As the rich have significantly increased the expense of such activities beyond the ability of the poor to reciprocate, the poor lose face and their social circles are narrowed. 5) With socio-spatial segregation between the rich and the poor, gossip, which in the past could affect the whole village, now becomes less effective. However, since the rich dominate the politics of the village, their gossip may become the public voice, and gossip by the poor does not result in social supervision and social sanction to the village cadres and the rich. Thus, guanxi and renqing exacerbate social exclusion, which in return shrinks the guanxi networks held by the poor and weakens their social capital, leading to the reproduction of inequality.

Sazhina, Olga
The Education University of Hong Kong

Social Protection for the Near Poor: Stratification and Inequality in Russia and China

Abstract

While the governments are widening public services and fighting for poverty reductions, the gap between the rich and the poor continues to rise. Furthermore, when the societies have learnt to value poverty reduction and help those in need, many people living in near poverty are left invisible. This paper is discussing on social stratification and social protection in Russia and China and particularly looks at struggles and rewards of low-income households in near poverty. The paper also includes information on social policies for the poor and provides its preliminary evaluation. The primary research question is: what are the risks and opportunities for people living close to the poverty line. The sub-questions are: how critical is the current situation of near-poor people; and, what public services can be addressed by a government to prevent the people's risks to fall under the poverty line. The study applies a content analysis and a descriptive analysis of secondary data. The paper outcome is going to be a theoretical and practical contribution to the field of poverty. The study uses the concept of 'near poor' applied in the USA, i.e. the households with a monthly income in the range of 100 percent-125 percent of the poverty line are cosnsidered as living in 'near poverty'. A current analysis of 'near poor' in Russia and China is a step towards improving public services in the face of the changing situations of near poverty populations and overall poverty rates.

WANG Xuanjing
University of Macau

The Contradictory Norms of the Rich in Present Day's China

Abstract

This study adopts grounded theory to collect data through semi-structured interviews, participant observation, media news, and even casual talks with informants. The data seeks to unlock puzzles about the norms of the rich in today's China. Such norms, particularly among the second generation of rich, have become central in many walks of life in China today. The research is partly based on Jon Elster's discussion on the dichotomy of rational choice and social norms. The norms of the rich present an odd mixture of rational economic calculation, prejudice against the poor, and even old feudal forms of ideas and behavior. This study primarily seeks to reveal how the rich look at themselves in terms of education, tastes, entertainment, social networking, opinions about the poor, and touches upon a range of ethical questions and other social issues prevalent among the rich in present day China.

Anson Au
University of Toronto

Reconceptualizing Symbolic Violence and Social Stratification in Hong Kong International Student Migration: Towards an Intersectional Nexus of Capital Conversion Pathways

Abstract

Historically, Hong Kong student participation in the international education market has been dominated by high-class families to capitalize on the prestige of a Western education by legitimating their status. Much research about international student migration continues to document cultural capital and interpretations of home and identity as drivers of international student migration. Over the past ten years, however, rates of international student migration from Hong Kong have skyrocketed and with staggering breadth, as students from middle-class backgrounds more commonly adopt educational migration. Moreover, recent evidence of a growing scarcity of jobs and a general decline in monthly earnings for young university graduates in Hong Kong calls into question the cultural motivations for international student migration and, more fundamentally, the type of capital returns the practice generates.Drawing upon twenty semi-structured interviews with youth Hong Kong international education graduates at the undergraduate level who have returned to the Hong Kong job market, I examine the contemporary democratization of educational migration in terms of the pathways it engenders through which political, economic, cultural, and symbolic forms of capital intertwine, distinguish, and convert into one another. Using field theory, I construct a Bourdieusian conceptualization of international student migration as an intersectional nexus of capital conversion pathways to pursue three interrelated lines of inquiry: (i) assessing the type of capital returns the practice generates in Hong Kong; (ii) how different forms of capital convert between one another in the international education migration and return process; (iii) how international students partake in perpetuating an established structure of stratification across even symbolic forms of capital.

Shakarjyoti Saikia
The Assam Kaziranga University

The Music of the 'Tabla' as an Agent of Identity and Social Stratification in a Metropolis: Reflections on the Qualitative Studies of Institutes of Music in Delhi

Abstract

Globalization, contributes to the transitions in the political economy of a people, and creates the conducive environs for the recognition and intermingling of languages, fashion and food habits. The identities of music are also affected and influenced by globalization. In its mundanity, music brings out our emotions, makes us who we are and is a real stress buster. But music is and does much more. Latently and manifestly, it informs us, divides us, coerces us and conditions us. Music then, sociologically speaking also, among other things, socially stratifies us. This inherent or socially constructed ability of music to bring about social hierarchies, becomes all the more pertinent, given the problems and possibilities of globalization already creating sea changes across a variety of human societies. This paper would attempt to identify within an urban context, how the transmission and perpetuation of the music of the Tabla (which is an Indian percussion instrument) is reflective of a production and reproduction of an age and class phenomenon. In doing so, it would be demonstrated that such a class phenomenon being created and recreated is institutionally ingrained. Finally, the paper would examine how such acts of consumption of a particular form/genre of music may bring about certain perceptions, certain identification of knowledge-systems and certain acts of performativity, with respect to the form/genre of music under consideration, and in the other forms/genres of music and other acts of consumption, examining the patterns of social stratification it reflects. The study is based on personal interviews undertaken by the researcher amongst teachers, students and administrative heads of five institutions in Delhi, India teaching the music of Tabla, and other forms and genres of music.

Panel 3.5
Football, Identity, and Fandom in Hong Kong and China

Tobias Zuser, Lawrence Ho & Kin-Man Wan
The Education University of Hong Kong, The Education University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

"Home" and "Away" in Hong Kong: How to Utilize Communal Identities for the Sustainable Development of Sports in Hong Kong

Abstract
This research investigates the case of Yuen Long Football Club, one of just three professional football teams in Hong Kong that directly represent local districts, to discuss the particularities of district teams as well as their perceived and actual role within the domestic football industry. Specifically, the research focuses on the perspectives of supporters by evaluating factors that contribute to their levels of loyalty and supportiveness, their views on their preferred team as well as their behavior in the stadium. The research findings provide evidence for the relationship between district teams and fan loyalty, which illustrates that district clubs have their own unique characteristics to attract and retain supporters, while facing challenges of commercial sustainability due to their territorial confinement.

Andy Chiu
University of Warwick

Black, White, and Yellow "Chinese" on the Pitch: Chinese National Identity in Hong Kong's Naturalized Football Players

Abstract
In the context of Greater China where dual nationality is not allowed, my research looks at the case of naturalized football representatives of Hong Kong and aims to explore the players' identity construction and negotiation of Chineseness and national identity as national representatives. I argue that the presence of non-ethnic Chinese as Chinese nationals in Hong Kong is a unique phenomenon in the context of Greater China, where ethnicity as Han-Chinese is often articulated. The ethnonationalistic understanding of Chineseness is challenged by the presence of naturalized players in Hong Kong's squad. And, in international football where nationalism and national identity are negotiated and reconstructed, the acceptance/rejection of naturalized players as part of Hong Kong society becomes a case in exploring Chinese identity in Hong Kong. My research will serve as an attempt to explore issues in Chinese nationalism through the lens of sports and reference to the idea of naturalization, offering new insights to our understanding of Chinese national identity.

Shiyi Gao

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Are We Less Chinese? An Anthropological Case Study of Football Fandom

Abstract

Football/soccer is widely regarded as the world's most popular sport, and is largely used to foster a lively fan culture in place-based communities. With the advent of technological development and globalizing capitalism, however, public enthusiasm for foreign leagues and even foreign national teams, has dramatically increased in China in recent decades. Instead of directly positioning the transnational support in the nexus of cosmopolitan identification, what was little anticipated is the extent to which contestation over football may see the reassertion of patriotism. That is, would we be less patriotic if we support a foreign national team? This presentation will then particularly focus on a self-organized fan club supporting the German national team in Beijing during the past Russian World Cup, to explore how territorial-bounded social identities (the Germany fandom) become consumed, and embodied in a transnational context, and how Chinese fans literally "being German" while still seeking for their "Chineseness"

Yung Sheung Ching

Lingnan University

A White, Black and Yellow Hong Kong National Team-Exploring the Intension of Concerned Parties of Local Football on Naturalized Players in Hong Kong National Team

Abstract

There are heated debates among concerned parties of local football on the participation of naturalized players in Hong Kong national team in these recent years.
Through in-depth interviews with local football fans, players, coaches, journalists and managers, this research investigates their intention on examining naturalized players.
According to the result of in-depth interviews, instrumental intention is universal among all concerned parties. They concern about the contributions of naturalized players to Hong Kong national team. For instance, they have a stronger identification to naturalized players whose perform outstanding in the team. Moreover, their concerns are not limited to the direct contribution on the field. They simultaneously concern about the contribution of naturalized players on the metabolism and sustainability of Hong Kong national team while arguments on this concern are polarized.
Apart from the instrumental intention, they in addition have civic and ethnic intention when they are discussing about the identity issue of naturalized players. They have summarized it with a set of rules that can reflect their civic intention (such as the use of Hong Kong daily language, understanding the law of Hong Kong and having a permanent residency in Hong Kong) and ethnic intention (understanding of Hong Kong culture, place of birth, place of growth, and taking root in Hong Kong.) In general, younger generation (20-40 years old) favour civic intention more than ethnic. On the other hand, elder generation (40 years old or above) favour ethnic intention more than civic.

張繼焦，宋丹	老字號發展新載體：紹興黃酒與特色小鎮
高崇	從文化自覺角度理解當代中國的老字號
張翠珍	中華老字號與中國國家品牌的構建
臧得順	"雙軌制"下的中藥老字號：品種保護制與專利制比較研究——以廣譽遠和同仁堂為例
王焯	匠人何求？老字號文化記憶建構主體功能研究——以八王寺為例

張繼焦，宋丹

中國社會科學院民族學與人類學研究所 / 中國社會科學院研究生院民族學系

老字號發展新載體：紹興黃酒與特色小鎮

摘要

近兩年全國掀起了培育和建設特色小鎮的熱潮，中國的特色小鎮最早發源於浙江省，它"非區非鎮"，既是一種新型的創業創新平臺，也是我國新型城鎮化過程中的一種重要載體。特色小鎮能夠在聚焦旅遊、時尚、金融、高端裝備製造等產業的同時，兼顧茶葉、絲綢、黃酒、中藥等歷史經典產業並挖掘其特有的歷史文化內涵。紹興黃酒小鎮延續東浦古鎮原有的歷史文化脈絡，聚焦歷史經典的黃酒產業，充分挖掘黃酒文化，將小鎮的歷史特色與現代元素有機結合。本文以此為例，旨在探討特色小鎮如何激發歷史文化遺產新活力，推動老字號企業的現代轉型，使其成為促進城市發展的新動能。

高崇

香港樹仁大學社會學系

從文化自覺角度理解當代中國的老字號

摘要

在定義中華老字號的時候，通常要求"具有鮮明的中華民族傳統文化背景和深厚的文化底蘊"，而且是"取得社會廣泛認同，形成良好信譽的品牌"。問題是，前者所特指的中華民族傳統文化到底從何說起，後者所使用的品牌說法應該是西方市場學和管理學的概念，存在明顯的內在文化衝突。本研究希望借用費孝通等學者關於文化自覺的討論，厘清現今依然持續經營的中國老字號的文化意義，探討延續至今的所謂傳統文化如何與現代商業企業經營模式互動和調適。

張翠珍

外交學院國際經濟學院

中華老字號與中國國家品牌的構建

摘要

"在爭奪生存與權力的鬥爭中，他人對我們的觀點、看法同我們的實際情形一樣重要，是我們在他人'心鏡'中的形象—哪怕這鏡中之像是歪曲的反映，而不是我們原本的樣子，決定了我們在社會中的身份和地位。"漢斯．摩根索的這句話表明了他形象或主觀形象的重要意義，國家形象也在其中。實際上，越來越多的國家開始通過實施國家品牌化 (nation branding) 來營造和維護本國的良好形象和聲譽。當然，國家形象受到關注，因為它不僅是一國在國際舞臺上的認同，更因為可以帶來巨大的經濟效應，從而出現了國家品牌概念。根據西蒙·安浩的國家品牌六維度模型，國家品牌是人們對該六邊形中六個維度的國家競爭力理解的總和，六維度包括出口、文化傳統、旅遊、政府治理、投資與移民、國家居民等。中華老字號作為中國有一定歷史和文化傳承的企業品牌與國家品牌有何關聯，從而在國家品牌的構建與傳播中承擔何種角色呢？本文將以國家品牌六維度模型為理論基礎，相信中華老字號是構建中國國家品牌的路徑之一，進而分析中華老字號如何在六個維度上支撐中國國家品牌的建構與傳播。

臧得順

上海社會科學院社會學研究所

"雙軌制"下的中藥老字號：品種保護制與專利制比較研究——以廣譽遠和同仁堂為例

摘要

在比較特殊的中藥領域，以《中藥品種保護條例》為代表的行政保護制度和以專利即智慧財產權制度為代表的市場保護，形成一種鮮明的"雙軌制"。本文作者以山西廣譽遠和北京同仁堂等中藥老字號的發展為例，試圖從制度社會學視角詳細闡釋這一制度形成的背景、演變及其對中藥老字號發展的雙重作用，並對新時代中藥保護法律制度的進一步規範和完善提出具有展望性和操作性的對策思路。

王焯

遼寧社會科學院社會學所

匠人何求？老字號文化記憶建構主體功能研究——以八王寺為例

摘要

從歷史和現實雙重軌跡中不難看出，就老字號而言，文化記憶傳承的建構主體為企業管理者和員工（主要為技藝掌控者），也可稱之為"匠人"。許多老字號在傳承的關鍵時期"匠人"都起到了至關緊要的作用。由於歷史性、行業性和地域性特點等，二者有的合為一體，有的各司其職，但都在老字號傳承和創新進程中發揮著重要的社會功能，主要體現在企業與政府、企業與社會、個人與企業三個層面。建構主體在文化認同、價值追求、技術水準等方面的和諧或矛盾，直接或間接影響著老字號文化記憶傳承效果的優劣高低。

Xiaoli Tian	Fantasy Is More Believable: Shadow Civil Sphere in Chinese Online Fiction
Anita Venanzi	Mind the Gap: Unexplored Perspectives of Corporate Interference in the Volunteering Sector
Shiufai Wong	The Issues of Identity Matter: Reexamining the Hybrid Ideal with Social Enterprise in HK
Tien Ee Dominic Yeo	Negotiating the Boundaries of Contention: Moral Edgework Among Young Participants of a Large-Scale Direct Action in Hong Kong

Xiaoli Tian
The University of Hong Kong

Fantasy Is More Believable: Shadow Civil Sphere in Chinese Online Fiction

Abstract
Using online fiction in China, this paper explores whether there is still space to express civil values in a "subjective" civil sphere when that civil sphere lacks institutionally protected legal and communicative spaces. Based on online observations, interviews with online fiction writers and readers, and content analysis of selected popular works of online fiction, I argue that online fiction has created survivalist and revenge-themed fantasy worlds that act as a shadow civil sphere. On the one hand, shadow refers to the dark side of the civil sphere wherein people use extremely anti-civil online fictions to reject the empty moral values promoted by the state. On the other hand, in the shadow people are still expressing moral ideals through cynicism. By creating a fantasy world that's more nasty and brutish than reality, they are expressing their cynicism regarding the society, the social system and the pretense of the public world. However, their cynicism actually articulates their belief in those civil values.

Anita Venanzi
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Mind the Gap: Unexplored Perspectives of Corporate Interference in the Volunteering Sector

Abstract
This working paper is part of a broader work that seeks to recognize, identify, define and reorganize in categories the contemporary experiences in transnational volunteering. In this chapter we analyze corporate volunteering as shaped by the history and tradition of Corporate Social Responsibility, whose story stretches between the 60s as society's response to the first signs of enterprises shadow over society and environment (Carroll, 1991) and the first examples of cooperation between CSR-seeking corporations and NPOs is attested in the United States of America (Allen, 2012). The topic has been revived in the last decades due to the renewed explosion of demands of moral behavior toward corporations that are becoming increasingly big, interdependent, influential, complex, problematic and polluting. The trend is so spread and relevant among new generations of employees that recent estimates from Western scholars report a 90% percentage of companies nowadays engaging in these kind of activities (Committee Encouraging Corporate Philantropy, 2011, in Rodell et al.). What are the logical and sociological inequalities that might apply in corporate volunteering as a meeting point of voluntary sector, the business sector and local communities? Is the cooperation of the voluntary and the business sector symmetrical in the sense of a mutually beneficial exchange of legitimization, resources and know-how or are we witnessing another example of antagonistic class relations producing an unbalanced, exploitative and newly imperialistic pattern? This are some of the theoretical challenges posed by this new intersectional configuration within the well-known tripartite system of the state, the market and the third sector. The current gap in the related literature, mostly business-oriented or motives-centered, is exposed, explored and assessed accordingly, to highlight the noisy absents and the unaddressed sociological concerns.

Shiufai Wong
Macao Polytechnic Institute

The Issues of Identity Matter: Reexamining the Hybrid Ideal with Social Enterprise in HK

Abstract

Hybridization referring to collaborative governance in term of a semi-social and semi-commercial corporate structure is recently a disputable concept in the nonprofit organization literature. Despite the concept being theoretically regarded as an asset to help improve nonprofit organizations to become financially sustainable without compromising their social goals, empirical researchers call into question the feasibility of it. Literature review shows that the number of hybrids has grown rapidly worldwide in recent years, but many of them hit snags in practice. While the knack lies in integrating both social and economic aims in the same strategy, how to integrate the two aims is unknown. This prompts hybrids to adjust their ways of doing business, and meanwhile theorists have inductively generalized a new business model, the Hybrid Ideal, to dissolve the contradictions inherent in mission and profit. This paper thus uses the Hybrid Ideal to test the most widely acclaimed hybrids in Hong Kong. As a result, it is discovered that the Hybrid Ideal has missed the significance of identity sparking off the issue of whether a niche market or a larger market should be targeted.

Tien Ee Dominic Yeo
Hong Kong Baptist University

Negotiating the Boundaries of Contention: Moral Edgework Among Young Participants of a Large-Scale Direct Action in Hong Kong

Abstract

Direct action is a nonnormative form of political claim-making with opportunities and risks for young participants. This study examines the implications of direct action participation which transcends the usual standards of civic and political engagement for youth moral and civic development. Based on in-depth interviews with 20 young participants of the Umbrella Movement in Hong Kong, this study contends that participating in a large-scale direct action constitutes "moral edgework"—a form of voluntary risk-taking that entails escaping and resisting the normative model of civic and political engagement. The thematic analysis of participants' experiences reveals how moral edgework enables young people to deploy the necessary skills, competencies, and symbolic resources to develop their own ideas about civic and political engagement as well as realize their moral identity and capacity. The findings illustrate the self-actualizing and action-centered political socialization engendered via participants' empowering emotional experiences and skillful practice of negotiating the normative and performative boundaries of contention (civility, lawfulness, peacefulness, and nonviolence). In doing so, this study contributes to a more pluralistic understanding of young people's political socialization through emphasizing their role as creative agents in their own development.

Ou Lei
The University of Hong Kong

From "Universal Suffrage" to "Hong Kong Independence": Understanding Hong Kong University Students' Political Participation from a Criminological Perspective

Abstract

Democratic movements in Hong Kong fell into a low ebb after the Umbrella Movement, while the political demands and resistance force have shown a trend of radicalization such as the ideology of Hong Kong Independence and self-determination. Under this circumstance, the group of university students played a significant role in participating in and organizing the political discussions and taking action. This study has discussed the shift of some Hong Kong university students' political demand to a more extreme level and argues that the echo chamber effect in political discussion, the decentralized mobilization and the dualist thinking method of "friend or foe" are the main reasons leading to the radicalized ideology of these students who support separating from China. This article adopted the framework of political process theory, from the perspective of political opportunity, mobilizing structure, framing process and contentious repertories to analyze how the political participation of Hong Kong university students has evolved, and what are the reasons and influence behind them.

Su Mei

The University of Hong Kong

Victimization of College Students from Online Campus Loans in Mainland China

Abstract

Recently, there have been a series of scandals about college students who have fallen rapidly into debt, with some cases even leading to suicide. The issue of campus loans has again driven the shady and underground lending business into the public spotlight and has drawn tremendous attention throughout China.
Despite increased public awareness on the societal and personal harm of campus loans, this category of offenses has received less attention compared to other types of violence issues in colleges. Conventional violent crimes in schools are embedded in public awareness, and is often seen as the most serious threat on campus. However, with the popularity of P2P lending on campus in recent years, the chance of becoming a victim of a financial trap set by loan sharks is much higher nowadays. In addition to causing individual harm, students who rack up loan shark debts also spread these issues to their families and social relationships.
This study will attempt to shed light on the process of victimization of financial fraud by loan sharks. A hierarchy of victimization framework is proposed to fully understand the relationships between online lenders and the characteristics of a student population who are easily targeted. In addition, the concepts of Primary and Secondary Victimization will be used to explain the trauma that students experience after falling victim to online lenders on campus.

Peng Wang

The University of Hong Kong

Explaining the Persistence of Campaign-Style Policing Against Organised Crime in Mainland China

Abstract

Why does the Chinese government persistently favour campaign-style policing to combat organised crime? Research to date has focused primarily on the legal issues and human rights concerns relevant to this crime control policy, offering insufficient knowledge to identify the underlying reasons for the persistence of such costly and controversial campaign-style policing. The proposed project will constitute a pioneering study of campaign-style policing in mainland China, examining why the Chinese government continues to favour the practice. Its aim is to develop a legitimacy-based theory of policy persistence by testing three hypotheses: (1) the deep-rooted political culture of 'heavy penaltyism' causes decision-makers to believe that campaign-style policing of organised crime is legally correct and morally justified; (2) the failure of routine enforcement encourages the Chinese government to continuously employ campaign-style enforcement to deal with stability-related problems, including organised crime; and (3) privileged groups (especially local political leaders) favour the constant use of campaign-style policing against organised crime in order to further their career prospects. .
To test these three hypotheses, the project will, after a systematic content analysis of published sources, conduct fieldwork in two Chinese cities (Chongqing and Qingdao). Based on contacts established from my previous work, I will conduct 60 individual interviews and at least five focus group discussions with (a) public security officials working at the grassroots level and (b) criminologists in public security colleges and other research institutions. This research will put forward a new perspective for interpreting policy persistence in mainland China and identify new directions for research and organised crime control policy.

He Ying Sylvia & Yannie Cheng
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

A Latent Variable Approach to Evaluate Satisfaction with Transport, Social Inclusion and Wellbeing among Older Chinese Adults

Abstract
There is a rise in aging populations world over, especially in cities, and policymakers are working to address this situation. In this light, it is necessary to understand the challenges faced by both the aging population and the policymakers. Increased mobility enables individuals to perform fundamental tasks such as going to work, accessing health services, and purchasing essential goods, besides other important activities related to recreation and socialisation, more easily and conveniently. This paper examines the impact of satisfaction with transport systems on the social inclusion of elderly people and their wellbeing. We conducted a questionnaire survey in 18 elderly centres, one from each of the 18 districts in Hong Kong, in 2018. We used a structural equation model (SEM) with latent variables to estimate the direct and indirect effects (through social inclusion) of satisfaction with the most commonly used transport systems on wellbeing. Our results show that transport systems are important to an older person's sense of community and satisfaction with their neighbourhood. Well-functioning transport systems are important for the social inclusion of older people. Satisfaction with transport systems has both direct and indirect effects on older people's physical and psychological wellbeing. Urban spaces and community buildings need to be adapted to become more inclusive of the older population to improve their wellbeing.

Dan Chen & Yuying Tong
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Adult Children's Education and Career Achievement, Marriage Formation and Elderly Parents' Well-Being in China

Abstract
Family life course perspective stated that adult children's success and problems are closely linked to their parents' well-being. Previous studies have tested this in Western setting with two main approaches: one is exposure approach and the other is cumulative approach. Drawing on exposure and cumulative approaches and China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study (CHARLS), we study this in Chinese context by examining adult children's marriage formation and education/career achievement on elderly parental depressive and life satisfaction. We found that rural elderly parental well-being is more influenced by adult children' marriage formation than their urban counterparts, which is particularly true in their depressive symptoms. Education and career achievement of adult children are beneficial to elderly parental psychological well-being in both rural and urban sample. Adult children's success or failure on elderly parents' life satisfaction is more relevant to rural people. Next step, we will use the panel data to examine whether the relationship is causal.

Liu Qin

Peking University

The Relationship between Children's Objective Characteristics and the Attitude towards Aging among Chinese Older People

Abstract

The attitude towards aging refers to the elderly's experience and evaluation of their own aging, which reflects their identification of old age. There have been some researches about the influence factors of this term, such as the health of older people, the support from their children, and so on. However, the influence of the children's objective characteristics (such as children's marriage status and the education levels) to their attitude towards aging is not clear. Based on the data of "China Longitudinal Aging Social Survey" (CLASS) in 2016, this paper analyses the current situation and the influence of the children's objective characteristics on the attitude towards aging among Chinese older people. The dependent factor is the answer from the question "What age makes you feel old". The main analytical method is Multiple Linear Regression. The results show that the older group who are female, younger age, with spouse, rural residence, with religious belief, worse self-rated health, better ADL score, better mental health, lower income, more children, less sons among children are more likely to have better attitude towards aging in their own term. As the aspect of children, the older people whose children with better marriage, lower education levels, better employment, not living in the same city are more likely to have better attitude towards aging. The two factors that children's economic status and whether having grandchildren beyond 18 years old are not statistical significance after adding the control variables.

Hu Kai

University of St Andrews

Health Inequality and Communist Political Status among the Elderly in China

Abstract

Background
Before the reform of marketization in China, the career opportunities were allocated by communist political status and education and the educational attainment was strongly associated with the communist membership. It is unclear about the relationship between health outcomes and communist membership.
Methods
Data is from China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study 2015 (CHARLS). In CHARLS, we have the many questions for frailty indicators that is an effective index to measure the elderly health and we could get the 3-scale index of frailty (0 for no-frail, 1 for half-frail and 1 for frail). Communist membership has 3 categories, without membership, a worker with membership, a cadre with membership.
Because of the geographical difference, multilevel modeling could be used for this paper.
Results
Basically, this study shows the communist political status are strongly associated with the elderly health in China while adding the career and health insurance into models, the significance of communist political is missing. This means the effect of career and health insurance on health is stemming from the communist membership. More importantly, this effect is more significant with the increase of ages.
Discussion
The contribution of this study is extending the effect on communist membership on Chinese aging people. Therefore, when talking health inequality especially for those who are born about the 1940s, communist membership could be a better indicator of socioeconomic status.

Yuk-Ying Ho	The Problem of Supernatural in Rodney W. Stark's Rational Choice Theory of Religion
Jiangcheng Wu	The Xiaozi and Literature of Haruki Murakami in Mainland China
Ari Kusmiatun	The Characteristics of the Javanese in the Philosophy of Bershie Kali Folklore from Bejharjo Village, Karangmojo, Gunungkidul, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Yuk-Ying Ho

Hong Kong Shue Yan University

The Problem of Supernatural in Rodney W. Stark's Rational Choice Theory of Religion

Abstract

This paper attempts to examine Rodney W. Stark's rational choice theory of religion with special emphasis on the construction of the idea of the supernatural and the role of the supernatural in empirical inquiry of religion. First, we present the rational choice theory of religion and the idea of the supernatural proposed by Stark. Next, we discuss and evaluate Stark's theory with reference to the Catholic supernatural concept of redemptive suffering and related issues. We introduce the design of our empirical research on Catholic patients' responses to pain and suffering to supplement our theoretical findings and show how the idea of the supernatural can be investigated empirically. This discussion contributes to a better understanding of both the advantages and limitations of means-end rationality as an approach to research on religion.

Jiangcheng Wu

Kyoto University

The Xiaozi and Literature of Haruki Murakami in Mainland China

Abstract

The boom of literature of Haruki Murakami swept across East Asia in a chain from Japan to South Korea, Taiwan, Hongkong and eventually to mainland China, which is also in tune with the proliferation of urbanization. Its value of being appropriate material to sociologically analyze how the globalization is being conducted in East Asia is often emphasized. However, the other perspective of this process tends to be neglected. That is about how the literature of Haruki Murakami is localized by different social groups or social classes in different parts of East Asia. As a significant example of that consideration, the process during which Haruki Murakami had been viewed as "the writer of Xiaozi(小资)" in mainland China needs further research. Xiaozi usually refers to the urban middle class emerged at the end of 1990s in mainland China. While it is stimulating to ask why and how they were connected, the more important argument rests on why the Xiaozi chose literature of Haruki Murakami as a way of distinction and how the influence was on their identity as a social class. Based on the abovementioned observations, this article aims to crystalize the Xiaozilization(小资化) of literature of Haruki Murakami in mainland China.

Ari Kusmiatun

Yogyakarta State University

The Characteristics of the Javanese in the Philosophy of Bershie Kali Folklore from Bejharjo Village, Karangmojo, Gunungkidul, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Abstract

This study aims to describe the character of Javanese in the philosophical folklore of Bersih Kali from Bejiharjo Village, Karangmojo, Gunungkidul. This study uses qualitative methods of ethnographic types. Data collection methods are carried out with observation and interview techniques. Data were analyzed with qualitative techniques. The validity of the data is done by source and method triangulation methods. The results of this study indicate: (1) Javanese have belief in occult things; (2) Javanese uphold mutual cooperation; (3) Javanese care for others and are helpful; and (4) Javanese have the belief that maintaining environmental cleanliness will bring good things. Therefore, in the Bersih Kali folklore, Javanese are described as people who have manners, politeness, and tenderness in acting and mutual cooperation.

Siyang Ni & Nicole Cheung
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Social Strain and Delinquency of Left-Behind Youths in Rural China

Abstract

Delinquency of rural youths who are left behind by their rural-to-urban migrant parents has attracted national attention in China. Few empirical studies, however, explain the relationship between delinquency of left-behind youths and social strain they have experienced. Research on gender differences in their delinquent behaviors is even sparse. Building on Agnew's General Strain Theory, this study aims to examine: (1) the main effects of various forms of social strain on left-behind youths' delinquency while controlling for social control factors, differential association factors, and socioeconomic status; (2) gender differences in the relationship between social strain and delinquency in left-behind youths; and (3) the effect of parental migration by comparing between left-behind and non-left-behind youths. Data of this study are drawn from a cross-sectional survey of 2,758 rural students, among which 1,617 were left-behind and 1,141 were non-left-behind at the time of survey, recruited from 30 middle schools in 10 rural counties in Hunan and Guangdong provinces. Beyond offering an empirical test of the general strain theory in China's rural settings, this study also draws attention to the influence of parental migration on the level of social control and delinquent peer association.

Yumei Gan & Christian Greiffenhagen

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Using Video to Study Video Calls (Between Migrant Parents and Their Left-Behind Children in China)

Abstract

Various studies investigating the role of new media in migration have argued that video-mediated communication is particularly important for family members to constitute 'distant love' (Beck & Beck-Gernsheim, 2014; Madianou & Miller, 2012; Parreñas, 2005), these studies have been mainly based on interviews with participants who provide accounts about their video calls. As yet, very few studies have examined the actual interactions happening during video calls. We therefore know little about how migrant parents interact with their left-behind children in practice.

Our study adopts the methodology of qualitative video analysis (Heath et al., 2010) and is based on video recordings of naturally occurring video calls between migrant workers and their left-behind children in China). We use these recordings to explore real-time parent-child interactions at a distance. In particular, we take the beginnings of their video calls as an analytical example to contribute to the methodological innovation of studying the use of technology in migration context.

Classical studies (e.g. Goffman (1963, 1971) and Maynard & Zimmerman (1984)) have shown that people use openings to provide presentations of self and manage social relationships. In this paper, we, firstly, demonstrate how participants 'work' to achieve social interaction, especially how grandparents play an essential role to orchestrate the parent-child communication; secondly, show how video data are important for us to understand the interactional achievement while video provides us with access to the embodied actions of participants.

Cai Tianji & Xin Yanyu

University of Macau

Child Trafficking in China: Evidence from Sentencing Documents

Abstract

Child trafficking has long been internationally recognized as a serious crime. However, due to data scarcity and inconsistent definitions, the scope and nature of such criminal activity are not well understood in China. To fill this gap, this study aims to provide new evidence by digitizing and analyzing sentencing documents on child trafficking in China during 2014-2016.

Taking advantage of web scraping techniques, all child trafficking cases were downloaded from the China Judgments Online website. Through geographic mapping and network analysis, we identified four geographic hotspots for trafficking—the central region (Shandong, Henan, and Hebei provinces), the east (Jiangsu, and Zhejiang provinces), the southeast (Guangdong and Fujian provinces) and the southwest (Sichuan, Guizhou, and Yunnan provinces)—and explored the connection between the hotspots and the gender of victims.

We further examined the effect of provincial socioeconomic characteristics on the frequency of trafficking cases, and found that sex ratio at birth and the number of legal adoptions per thousand were positively correlated to the frequency of buying and selling children.

趙巧豔
山西財經大學

貨通天下何以可能——文化線路遺產中的晉商駝道

摘要

晉商駝道，作為一條與絲綢之路、茶馬古道比肩的商貿古道，是貫通＂中原農耕文明＂與＂草原遊牧文明＂以及中國對外貿易的三大古商道之一。在這條古道上，形成了以珠串鏈的駝道地脈、通商寬農的駝道文脈、貨通天下的駝道商脈。作為互通有無的典型，晉商駝道以絕對優勢（即有與無）贏得了食鹽業、以比較優勢（即多與少）贏得了絲綢業、以區位優勢（即彼與此）贏得了糧布業、以競爭優勢（即高與低）贏得了金融業。

王增武
山西財經大學

社會空間視閾下的餐飲老字號困境與發展——以皖江城市帶為例

摘要

長江在安徽段被稱為皖江，皖江城市帶因處於徽州文化、皖江文化和廬州文化圈的中心，且比鄰江浙，歷史上商業發達，目前共有＂中華老字號＂稱號 14 家，省級老字號近 120 家，餐飲食品業占一半之多。目前，老字號研究多從經濟管理視角出發，鮮有從社會空間視角來探析其困境與發展。作為社會發展的切片，皖江城市帶餐飲老字號遭遇空間重構的重大轉變，其老舊的生產工藝、非標準化的經營模式和注重環保、養生、健康和科學的現代消費和經濟發展目標和價值產生衝突，是影響其在現代社會發展的核心因素。在未來，促使其社會空間走向多元化發展是必然之路。

申林靈
華中農業大學社會學系

湖北武漢＂五芳齋＂：地區性食品老字號的現代之路

摘要

五芳齋作為湖北省最早入選＂中華老字號＂的餐飲企業，迎著改革開放的浪潮，在武漢市餐飲行業率先實行股份制改革，2014 年被浙江＂五芳齋＂兼併，兩家企業攜手合作，不斷擴大品牌的市場影響力，營業額呈直線上升。本文擬從歷史人類學的角度，通過追溯武漢五芳齋的發展歷程，指出推動企業內部制度改革，構建完善的管理機制，促進品牌商標的融合，拓展企業的發展網路與模式是地區性食品老字號保持旺盛生命力的重要因素。

顧一平
雲南民族大學人文學院

老字號的老傳統與新生命──以中華老字號＂豐同裕＂為例

摘要

藍印花布傳統技藝及其產品是中華傳統文化的一部分，也是我國寶貴的非物質文化遺產。＂豐同裕＂專注于藍印花布傳統工藝近兩百年，是一個值得發掘的老字號。本文在企業人類學結構功能論框架下，分析老字號企業的現代市場競爭力，闡述老傳統如何煥發新生命，新生命又如何才能持續、壯大。

陳興平，張麗
安徽大學社會與政治學院

文化傳承視角下的徽商老字號研究

摘要

徽商老字號對徽商文化的傳承主要體現在，＂徽駱駝＂精神傳承、商業倫理的恪守、＂工匠精神＂的傳承等幾個方面。徽商老字號對徽文化的創新主要體現在，從傳統企業的觀念轉變到現代企業觀念、從單調化的行銷方式轉向多樣化、從拒斥他人到善於與他人合作等方面。以文化傳承的視角研究徽商老字號，不僅對徽商老字號的發展具有緊要意義，對其他想要獲得長遠發展的企業同樣具有重要的借鑒意義。

Karita Kan

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Land Dispossession and Its Social Politics: A Case Study from South China

Abstract

Rural China has been the site of intensive administrative, economic and territorial restructuring in the reform era. Beginning in the 1980s, rapid industrialization and urbanization have fuelled the increasing demand for rural land. Particularly controversial is the process of state expropriation (zhengdi), whereby local governments obtain rural land from village collectives and convert it to state ownership before selling it, often at a much higher conveyance price, to commercial users. The literature has documented the rising tide of rural conflicts as land-related disputes grew to become one of the most contentious issues in contemporary Chinese politics.

This paper examines the social politics of dispossession by focusing on the nexus between grassroots configuration of power and collective action. It is shown that land politics in villages today remained closely tied to informal institutions and social organizations. Grassroots elites with significant socio-political power play a central role in rural land development. The cooptation of these elites by the state and their role as facilitators of land commodification processes has been a chief cause of rural discontent. It is furthermore argued that although the commodification of land politics has led to the increased deployment of material concessions by the state to elicit compliance, the presence of strong social institutions has made collective action possible. These shall be demonstrated through the case study of a village undergoing redevelopment in Guangzhou, whose members successfully organized a campaign to stall redevelopment and protest against collusion by the village leadership.

HU Jun

Lingnan University

Missing Transitions: A Case Study of the Clearance of Kowloon Walled City (1987-1995)

Abstract

Kowloon Walled City (hereafter KWC) was built as the military fort established by the Qing government to declare China's sovereignty over Hong Kong and monitor activities of Hong Kong colonial government. Concerning the administration rights of Walled City, British government and Chinese government had multiple diplomatic conflicts throughout the 19th century. By nature, KWC should have been regarded as Chinese nationalist symbol of sovereignty in Hong Kong and the humiliating history of Hong Kong as a colony of British empire. However, after the clearance of KWC, it gradually became a significant symbol of Hong Kong local culture and history.

My empirical discourse analysis of KWC between Hong Kong government and Hong Kong society draws evidence from Hong Kong Hansard and the local popular newspaper including the South China Morning Post, Ta Kung Pao, Wen Wei Pao, Ming Pao and the Sing Tao Daily, to find out the hegemonic discourse of government and the public. Applying social construction approach, How did the public perceive and make claims about the clearance project? How did the government respond to the public demand? How did the claim of the public influence the social movement about KWC clearance project? My case study aims to reveal the rising of Hong Kong civil society in 1980's.

Yuyang Kang
Lingnan University

Promoting Knowledge Transfer in Shenzhen's Nanshan District: Models, Implications and Challenges

Abstract

Since September 2014, Chinese central government has been proactively promoting "mass innovation and entrepreneurship". This initiative aims not just to solve economic slow-down but also work as a solution to China's intensifying social problems such as aging society and youth unemployment or underemployment. A core component of promoting innovation and entrepreneurship is to encourage knowledge transfer from research institutions to industries. As the pilot site for central government's new policies and the most innovative city in China, Shenzhen has been providing valuable models and experiences for other cities. The paper reviews policies and new systems developed in Shenzhen's Nanshan District for promoting knowledge transfer from research institutions to industries. It argues there are three key components in Nanshan model: government policies, special service system and finance system for science and technology transfer.

Hua Zhong & Tianji Cai
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, University of Macau

Social Development and Violent Crime in Urban China: Evidence from Published Judgment

Abstract

One noteworthy theme in sociological/criminological writings is the effects of modernization and economic development on crime. Prior studies in various societies tend to show more empirical support to Shelly's modernization thesis: with development, property crime will increase, while violent crime will decrease. However, very few studies notice the heterogeneity within "pure" violence. Even for homicide, the most extreme type of violence, a great proportion of homicide offenders are motivated by profits. Such research gaps call for theoretical clarifications and careful empirical examinations about the relationship between social development and subtypes of violence. The present study thus aims to revisit three mainstream development-crime theories by analyzing economic and non-economic homicide cases in urban China: institutional anomie theory, social inequality thesis, and Shelley's modernization argument (opportunity).

Since 2013, the Supreme Court of China requires Chinese courts at all levels to upload their judgments to the China Judgments Online (CJO) website for better monitoring and more transparency. This CJO database becomes the only available data set with detailed information of Chinese homicide cases, including specific motivations of the offenders. Based on this CJO dataset, we conduct a content analysis on 100 urban homicide judgments from Guangdong Province (GDP per capita is relatively equal to Greece) and 100 urban homicide judgments from Guizhou Province (GDP per capita is relatively equal to Jamaica). The results of this preliminary study reveal that economic-motivated homicide offences in fact are more likely to occur in the rural regions of less developed societies, while the value of the property involved in economic homicide cases is often much higher in more developed societies. We also find that in extremely disadvantaged societies like Guizhou province, loyalty-based homicides are often intertwined with economic-driven homicides. These findings are to some extent in line with the predictions of the opportunity thesis and show partial support to the absolute inequality explanations

Panel 5.2
Crime, Policing and Punishment III

Shih-Ya Kuo & Luyue Zhang
University of Macau

A Trapped and Resistant Body: The Everyday Practices of Married Women in Taiwan within the Context of Intimate Partner Violence

Abstract

Power is one of the key terms in intimate partner violence studies. How perpetrators construct and excise the power over their intimate partners? We analyze 24 in-depth interviews with married women in Taiwan who experience the intimate partner violence. Data reveal the procedure of the power relationship that women become docile bodies and being oppressed by strategic power throughout their whole lives. In particular, these women not only experience the powerful "sovereign" and "patriarchy" but also face the power from modern institutions such as police, court, and women assistance organization. In this process, they modify and self-regulate their bodies and behaviors to keep themselves safe. However, the social structure is not completely seamless and solid，but is porous like a sieve. No matter how many rules and regulations are created and enforced by the strategic power. Women can find games to tactically exploit those cracks. Actually, women in violent relationships, as active agencies, also have power to negotiate the strategic power. Less powerful women exercise their tactical power to occupy spaces in which they can against structural force with guileful ruses and tricks. The purpose of this article is not intended to enumerate the violent behaviors against women but to deepen the understanding of the mechanism of power and control in an abusive relationship.

Xiaoye Zhang
City University of Hong Kong

Narrating Rehabilitation: Prison Leadership and the Exemplary Order

Abstract

Compared to studies on prisoners and officers, only a small number of prison studies focus on governing power, and none on Chinese prison leadership. By combining theories of exemplary social control (Bakken, 2000) and social drama (Turner, 1980), this ethnographic case study has shown how prison X leadership has constructed a metanarrative of prison work, which the author argues (re)produces the phenomenon of widely observed mass production of stage performances in Chinese prisons. Bakken has recognized that the exemplary social control model is inherently narrative: "the stories of virtuous and exemplary models establish standards of social behavior and still represent the grand narratives of society" (p.170). However, he did not provide empirical analysis of how these grand narratives are being (re)constructed locally with constantly changing references and conceptualized an overstated opposition between cadres and their subordinates. The understanding of prison leadership's narrative construction is important for offender rehabilitation studies as it translates directly to cultural activities that are framed as correctional. Turner's social drama theory was also found to be strongly relevant here, as he proposed the four stages of breach, crisis, redress, reintegration or schism, as well as their mutual influence with cultural performances such as theatre. This study argues that the correctional cultural activities are about the representation of effective consolidation of state apparatus and institutions by ways of reusing old concepts and practices in line with current political trends for the purpose of organizational legitimation and self-sustainment, rather than the demand for moral and value reformation from the offenders.

Borge Bakken
Australian National University

Transition, Age and Inequality: Core Causes of Chinese Crime

Abstract

From the utopian "eradication of crime" referred to during the Maoist and Dengist days, China has experienced the crime increases of capitalist modernization and transition. Instead of the alleged "eradication", however, we have seen a concealment of crime. Chinese crime has been "disappeared" in the statistics and mystified by more or less valid or invalid theories about the causes of alleged "low crime rates". Some have resorted to some kind of "Chinese characteristics" to explain data that basically are wrongly gathered or deliberately falsified by official decree or managerial manipulation in the name of "social stability" or mere managerial opportunity. Obviously, every nation should be looked at in the perspective of what John Braithwaite has called "contextual efficiency", but that does not mean China represents an aberration from global macro theories of crime. This paper aims to go back to the basics, looking at demography, social transition, and inequality, using well-known and well tested criminological macro theory to get a closer picture of the Chinese crime situation.

Swayamshree Mishra

India Institute of Technology

Gender and Identity in Odisha

Abstract

Body serves as a medium through which relationships in a particular space and social order are experienced, represented, produced and reproduced. The female body is often considered as the inferior one, thereby making her bodily processes a source of shame and taboo, for instance, menstruation. The presence of menstrual restrictions and taboos are often seen as the products of gendered socialization in India which creates a body that is regulated and confined. Much of the restrictions during menstruation are to protect men from the dangers of menstruating blood in the phase of liminality, thereby making gender bias a dominant undercurrent in any discussion or practices of menstruation However these restrictions and taboos however objectionable and regressive give some women an identity of being the 'cultured mother' and a 'desirable home-maker'. The paper looks at the different ways the pollution practices and initiation rites associated with menstruation simultaneously empower and devalue some women. With changing times the nature of puberty rites and practices around menstruation have changed and the intervention of government in the field of menstrual hygiene through policies has made the private practices open to public discussions and scrutiny. This paper examines how women across different age groups negotiate with these changing notions and practices of menstruation which directly reflects upon their status in the society. Finally, the paper documents how the recent changes in the discourse of menstruation are redefining the understanding of body, gender and identity in Odisha. Participant observation for a period of six months was carried out in Kanpur village of Odisha. A series of in-depth life history and oral history interviews was conducted amongst women of different age groups in the village.

Piyashi Dutta
Amity University

Re (Assessing) Gender in Matrilineality in a Globalised World: With Reference to the Khasi's of Meghalaya, India

Abstract

The Khasi tribe of Meghalaya are one of the few societies that follow matriliny till this day, others being Jaintia and Garo tribes of the same state, which many consider the cynosure matrilineal communities in India and Asia. In a globalised world more predominantly social organisations are subject to unremitting change. Social change is indicative of the alterations which take place in the social procedures, social arrangements or social organisation of people's life. In the process of social change, modifications take place in all components wherein philosophies and principles, institutional organisations and functions go through transformation. The rapidity and magnitude of change will vary from one society to another, but change seems to be inevitable. The Khasi matrilineal society is no different; it has been facing the winds of change from the time of its encounter with colonial rulers, Christian missionaries and exposure to other societies from different parts of India. An uproar that has been challenging the Khasi matriliny over more than two decades is the demand for patriliny. There is an increasing debate that whatever social security Khasi women have owing to matriliny will also dwindle if patriliny is adopted. In this light, this paper re (asses) the gender continuum in the Khasi society, with focus on folk practices that still guard gender insinuations and identity in the Khasi tribe, in the 21st century. It is been argued that in the process of discussing gender in folk media, it is to be taken into account that there is a local interpretative context that shapes the gender coefficient. This local interpretative context operating is a tool that helps to comprehend how gender roles are understood.

Lau Ngar-Sze
The Education University of Hong Kong

Lay Meditation Movement and Female Spirituality: Chinese Women Practicing Transnational Mediation in Contemporary China

Abstract

This paper explores how the recent popularity of transnational meditation practices may have changed the paradigm of women practicing meditation and Chan revival in contemporary China. With the influence of Buddhist modernization, there has been an increasing number of Chinese monastics and lay people practising transnational meditation practices, such as samādhi and vipassanā, in various kinds of traditions in the past two decades. Some even travelled to other countries to learn meditation and even ordained as short-term monastics, like many yogis from all over the world. Returned travellers organized meditation retreats at Buddhist monasteries. Buddhist nuns and female lay cannot access to most Chan hall (cantang) of monasteries in mainland China. Nevertheless, among establishing transnational meditation communities, Chinese women have also taken active and important roles. Some nuns and laywomen even become teachers and pioneers promoting meditation and mindfulness. This phenomenon may have impacted on the traditional Mahayāna Chan monasteries to allow nuns and laywomen to practice at 'public hall' recently. Besides, a few Chan halls have been newly set up at nunneries. Drawing from ethnographic study in mainland China, this paper will examine the significant role of Chinese female meditators in the recent transnational meditation movement and Chan revival in contemporary China.

Yip Yui Fung
Lingnan University

How Do Netizens Participate and Interact in Online Shaming Events? A Micro-sociological Study on Hong Kong's Online Interactive World

Abstract

This presentation is part of an ongoing research studying the dynamics of online shaming in Hong Kong. Generally, online shaming refers to the collective action of condemning a thought-to-be wrongdoer and doxing his or her personal information. In this research, I mainly regard online shaming as a case study to investigate the patterns of people's online interactional behaviors in Hong Kong. By comprising a theoretical framework of interaction rituals from Erving Goffman and Randal Collins, I try to delineate how online shaming works as an interactive practice, and more importantly, to extend the classical theoretical ideas into a contemporary online form.

As I will argue in this presentation, online shaming is not just a one-dimensional practice that aims to condemn a particular individual. Rather, it features in various interactive elements. Basically, as I suggest, there are different roles and modes of participation in a single online shaming event. For example, roles such as shamers, endorsers, affirmers and defenders are crucial to such a practice and they may act and interact in very different ways. In terms of data collection, since the topic of this research is comparatively new in Hong Kong and in sociological studies, I adopted qualitative methods including documentary analysis on local shaming cases and 24 semi-structured interviews to offer detailed description and interpretations of such a phenomenon.

Lu Chen

Guangzhou University

Construction of Intimacy in a Mobile Game: A Case of Love and Producer

Abstract

This article examines the text of Chinese mobile game Love and Producer and its online community of players to discuss the role of consumption in construction of intimacy in the mobile game. Through analyzing the settings of main characters, story plots and player consumption in the game, the article finds that settings of main characters demonstrate the rapid formation of middle class in urban China and its adoration of power elites. Also, the settings of story plots reflect that the intimacy between male and female virtual characters is constructed around consumption. Moreover, to construct the intimacy with male virtual characters, the players have to maintain the high-level consumption of virtual items. The virtual world becomes the projection of contemporary Chinese society with rising consumerism.are understood.

Ranran He

Hong Kong Baptist University

An Explorative Study on Older Adults' Online Social Networks: Insights from Elderly WeChat Users in Urban China

Abstract

As online communication media integrates into people's everyday life, it shows great potential in helping online users maintain, expand or even reconfigure their social networks. The recent years witness a rapid increase in the number of elderly online users, while there are still lack of researches which focus on older adults' online social networking activities and their online social networks. Drawing on 30 in-depth interviews with elderly users on WeChat, one of the most influential and popular online communication media in Chinese Mainland, this research tries to investigate how could elderly people connect and interact with different social ties through the active use of online communication media and how this online connection and interaction influences their social networking activities for maintenance and enrichment of their social networks in the late adulthood.

The data shows that on online communication media, the active elderly users intensively connect and interact with non-primary ties and even distant ties like friends, old schoolmates, former co-workers and etc., while their online interaction with primary ties is relative less. Also, elderly users prefer the group discussion rather than one-by-one interaction. Online communication media provides new channels for them to efficiently organize and participate in group-based social networking activities, encourages support exchange among online group members and helps increase their relation qualities with non-primary or even distant ties.

This paper explores how the recent popularity of transnational meditation practices may have changed the paradigm of women practicing meditation and Chan revival in contemporary China. With the influence of Buddhist modernization, there has been an increasing number of Chinese monastics and lay people practising transnational meditation practices, such as samādhi and vipassanā, in various kinds of traditions in the past two decades. Some even travelled to other countries to learn meditation and even ordained as short-term monastics, like many yogis from all over the world. Returned travellers organized meditation retreats at Buddhist monasteries. Buddhist nuns and female lay cannot access to most Chan hall (cantang) of monasteries in mainland China. Nevertheless, among establishing transnational meditation communities, Chinese women have also taken active and important roles. Some nuns and laywomen even become teachers and pioneers promoting meditation and mindfulness. This phenomenon may have impacted on the traditional Mahayāna Chan monasteries to allow nuns and laywomen to practice at 'public hall' recently. Besides, a few Chan halls have been newly set up at nunneries. Drawing from ethnographic study in mainland China, this paper will examine the significant role of Chinese female meditators in the recent transnational meditation movement and Chan revival in contemporary China.

Beatrice Oi-Yeung Lam
Open University of Hong Kong

The Limit of Broadened Horizons: Inquiring into Youth "Empolyability" in the Global Knowledge Economy

Abstract

The massification of higher education in Hong Kong has been touted to be geared towards the nurturance of entrepreneurial citizens demanded by the global knowledge economy. The optimism promised has however been eclipsed by the perceived disaffection and lack of employability of young people, cynicism associated with credentials inflation, and the questioning of the link between higher education and social mobility.

This paper probes the alignment (or the lack thereof) between labor market demands and graduate outcomes by drawing upon the findings of a study of young workers currently studying or having recently graduated from self-financed institutions in Hong Kong. By making reference to the narratives of study and work of these young people, this paper makes preliminary observations of the kinds of skills and competences demanded in contemporary workplace. The chasm between popularized aspirations of global professional jobs/ workers/ citizens and actual experiences in the labor market appears to cast doubt on dominant paradigms of 'employability'. The paper also traces sources of youth disaffection in terms of the difficulties these young people encounter in carving out a sense of meaningfulness out of their work life. It further highlights young people's seemingly unwavering belief in individual choice and comments on what this means for our understanding of inequality in today's economy. Methodological limitations and the implications of the study will be discussed.

Ma Xiyue & Lee Trevor Tsz-Lok

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Education University of Hong Kong

Work-Leisure Borders in Post-Industrial Society: The Study of Leisure Experience of Homeworkers in China

Abstract

There has been a growing popularity of the tele-based homeworking worldwide in recent years. Working at home brings work and non-work domains together and evokes some new debates on the border issues of work-leisure relationship since home has been considered as a center for leisure. Focusing on leisure in the non-work domain, this study aims to address two debates concerning work-leisure borders in the case of homeworking: 1) the blurring of borders—whether the borders are weakened or not by inviting work into the leisure center; 2) the border-setting behaviors on work and leisure domains in the wider social context of an overworking trend in the post-industrial era. Drawing upon data from semi-structured interviews with 13 home-based teleworkers in Shanghai, China, this study investigates how homeworkers in contemporary China perceive and make sense of their changing work-leisure borders and the paradoxical impacts of the change on their leisure experiences. One notable finding is that the respondents' border-setting behaviors had little effect on shaping their leisure domain. Implications of findings for leisure studies are discussed.

Xiaotian Li

The University of Hong Kong

Reliable Programmer vs Sensitive Product Manager? Ideal Worker in the Chinese Internet Economy and Its Gender Implication

Abstract

This research represents an inquiry into work experiences in the internet economy in China, based on interviews with employees in the so-called Internet Industry. The primary object is to investigate insider understanding of the nature of their work and work culture in their workplace. Represented by two major professions in the industry, namely, software engineers and the newly-established profession Product Manager, the ideal worker norms in the industry are explored in the interviews, reported, and examined from gender perspective.

Product managers, as a profession in-the-making in the internet economy, are responsible for 1) understanding users/customers and collect demands, 2) translating demands into product design, and 3) managing project progress, according to the insider workers, which requires "common sense" and soft skills in daily work. The software engineers, dominated by men, in IT companies are assessed by their reliability of getting work done on time and bugless, which could be furtherly exhibited by the culture of technical expertise, autonomous learning, and long-time and over-time work. The ideal type of reliable programmer could be related to a new type of masculinity, which contributes to labor process control.

This comparison of the two professions, male-dominant programmers and less-so product managers, provides insights of how gendered interpretation of job performances in high-tech workplace happens, and will have continuous significance in the development of the internet economy. Specifically, this research presents how female qualities are underestimated, and women are interpreted as less-qualified in the discussion of both professions.

QIN Siqi

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Nonstandard Work Schedule and Work-Family Conflict in China

Abstract

Past research on nonstandard work schedule and its consequences has largely been based on data from developed societies and generally paid little attention to the potential effect of gender ideologies. This research examines the impact of nonstandard work schedule on the level of work-family conflict experienced by male and female workers moderated by gender ideology in the context of China. Using national-level data from China General Social Survey 2015 (N = 10000), this study tests for the association between two types of nonstandard work schedule (unpredictable schedule and overtime work) and work-family conflict, before estimating the interaction effect of gender and traditional or egalitarian gender ideologies on this relationship. The study is in progress and preliminary results will be presented.
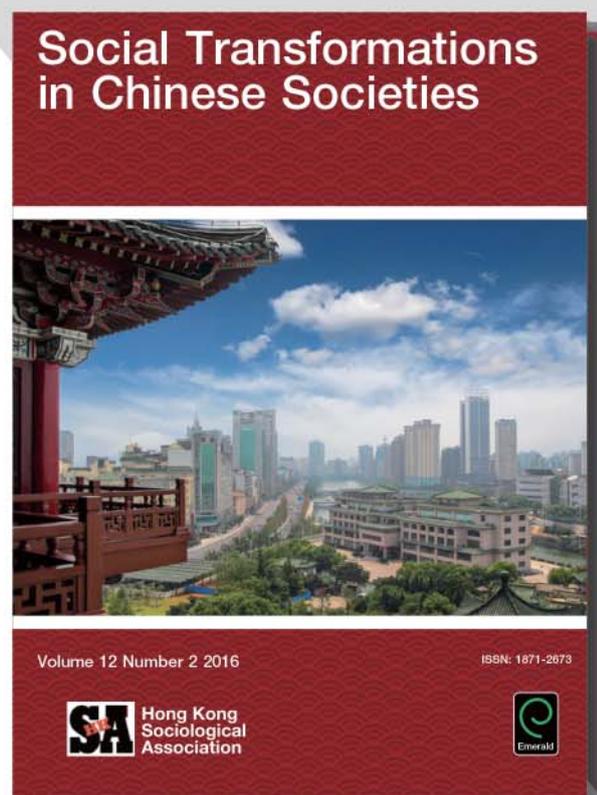
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