Call for Papers
Globordered Intimacies: Immigration and Gendered Labor, Family and Personal Relationships
June 16-18, 2019
Tel-Aviv University, Israel

Our era is characterized by intense voluntary and forced border-crossing. Short and long-term immigration, for work and multitude of other reasons, has become a part of the biographies of millions, turning "Transnational Families", "World-Families", and "Globordered Families" – in which family members move from one country to the other, or live in different countries - into a significant phenomenon. Yet, much is still to be empirically studied, culturally analyzed, normatively discussed, and theoretically conceptualized in relation to the intersection of immigration, families, and gender.

Moreover, as the title of this conference highlights, families are not the only gendered intimate domain affected by immigration. For example, it has been claimed that friendships are “taking over various social tasks, duties, and functions, from family and kin.” (Phal 2000, 8). These “hidden solidarities” are less visible and institutionalized than the solidarity established in familial relations, and are seriously understudied. Another site for the study of non-familial solidarities is the workplace. For example, research in this field suggests that non-traditional forms of solidarity created with others in and outside the workplace can be crucial in the lives of migrant and other workers to prevent severe labor market exploitation, and human trafficking.

The main questions that will be addressed during the conference are:

- How are intimate relations practiced, maintained, and evaluated in the immigration social context? What makes someone a “good family member”, a “good co-worker” or a “good friend”?
- How do affective relationships and various forms of solidarities and collective actions in the globordered workplace impact working conditions, workplace exploitation, and workers’ voice in the workplace?
- How do cultural conventions and normative expectations in relation to intimate relationships influence immigration?
- What are the gendered implications of the impact of immigration on intimate relations?
- How do these implications differ by place, age, economic status, sexual orientation, labor sector, kind of relation, and other relevant variables? Can any similarities be detected nevertheless?
- How do different disciplines study these implications, and can they inspire each other, or even cooperate in future productive ways?
- How are these implications expressed in the cultural products (literature, films, crafts, blogs etc.) of the immigrants’ home-communities, new-communities, and host-communities? Can the cultural shifts in these different communities be compared, or even described, in terms of mutual influences?
- How should these implications be socially and normatively regulated on the international, and national scales?

Confirmed Keynote and Guest Speakers:
Prof. Rhacel Salazar Parrenas (University of Southern California, USA) - Keynote
Dr. Manoj Dias-Abey (Queen’s University, Canada)
Prof. Yasmine Ergas (Columbia University, USA)
Prof. Helma Lutz (Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Germany)
Dr. Vanessa May (University of Manchester, UK)
Dr. Helen Schwenken, (University of Osnabreuck, Germany)
Dr. Inga Thiemann (University of Exeter, UK)

We will give serious consideration to all high-quality abstracts on any of these topics, from any discipline. Abstracts should include:
- An overview of the main question and arguments of your contribution (up to 300 words)
- Key words
- Contact details [author(s), affiliation (including institute and department), and e-mail address]
- Short bio of author/s (250 words, each)
- In case of advanced students, a recommendation letter from supervisor is required.
- In cases of presenters from the Global South, modest scholarships might be provided – please note in abstract if financial support is needed.

Abstracts must be in English and be submitted to this email address: cegla@tauex.tau.ac.il

Deadline for submission: September 15th, 2018

Academic Organizers (TAU):
Prof. Daphna Hacker, Law Faculty and Gender Studies Program
Prof. Adriana Kemp, Head of the Sociology and Anthropology Department
Dr. Smadar Shiffman, Head of the Gender Studies Program, Literature Department
Dr. Kinneret Lahad, Gender Studies Program
Dr. Hila Shamir, Law Faculty
The conference is sponsored by:

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