



Rights, Reproduction and Care: Gender, intimacy and mobility in the context of hardening borders and new populist nationalisms

Workshop held at the department of Health Promotion and Development,
University of Bergen on December 8th 2017

Venue: Faculty of Psychology, Christiesgate 13, 5th Floor

This workshop addresses the linked concepts of rights, control and regulation of reproduction, and the growing financialisation of intimate care. In a rapidly changing political and economic climate we are witnessing the growth of populist, nationalist and exclusionist movements which push European governments to harden and militarise borders. Movements of people from the east and from the south into the core countries of Europe are increasingly curtailed or blocked, often with violence. On the other hand, the countries at the core of Europe depend on migrant labour, often poorly paid and badly regulated, to meet a variety of physical and emotional needs, such as childcare, domestic labour, and care of the elderly.

The contradictions inherent in the xenophobic regulation of borders and this increasing dependence on migrant labour for intimate care are mirrored in debates and regulations currently arising particularly in eastern and central Europe around questions of reproductive choice and reproduction. While the governments of countries such as Poland move to limit drastically the reproductive choices and rights of female citizens, they may also allow new entrepreneurial activities in the health services which facilitate the most intimate aspects of gendered reproduction: surrogacy, iv fertilisation and other services.

This workshop brings together a small group of social scientists working variously in the fields of gendered economies, reproduction, care and intimacy. By focusing on reproductive regulation and constraints, and simultaneously on the growth of reproduction both as an industry driven by market forces and “outsourced”, financialized care, we want to probe the contradictions which currently enforce borders and control mobility in some contexts, and open them, making them porous and economically dynamic, in others. At the heart of all of these processes are issues of rights, gender, and the regulation of human bodies and lives in the interests of new nationalisms.

Workshop attendance: The workshop is organized as a closed event, but has space for a few participants in addition to those presenting papers. If you would like to attend, please contact Maria Luttges: Maria.Luttges@uib.no



Programme

09.00 - 09.15

Welcome and brief introduction. By Haldis Haukanes, University of Bergen

Panel 1: Migration, intimacy and the life trajectories (09.15-12.40)

Chair: Frances Pine, Goldsmiths, University of London, UK

09.15-10.00: Panel presentations

Caroline Leutloff-Grandits, University of Graz, Austria

The ethnicity and gender of borders: Marriage migration from Kosovo to Western Europe

Izabela Main, University of Poznan, Poland

Impact of mobility on reproductive health among Polish women.

10.00-10.15: Coffee break

10.15 -11.00: Panel presentations continued

Gabriela Nicolescu, Goldsmiths, University of London, UK

Making parties in house societies, curating in the field of care

Lise Widding Isaksen, University of Bergen

Migration and Social reproduction: Polish and Italian Mothers in Norway

11.00-12.10: Film screening

Olena Fedyuk, Strathclyde University, Glasgow (visiting researcher)

Olha's Italian Diary

12.10-12.40: Panel discussion

12.40-13.30: Lunch



Programme

Panel 2: Reproduction: politics, policies and temporalities (13.30-15.10)

Chair: Haldis Haukanes, University of Bergen

13.30- 14.40: Panel presentations

Agnieszka Koscianska, University of Warsaw, Poland
Tracing sources of recent neo-conservatism.

Hana Haškova, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic
Who is supposed to reproduce and how? The development of Czech family policies and a fear of low fertility.

Christine Jacobsen, Centre for Women's and Gender Research, University of Bergen
Reproductive futurities in the context of irregular migration

14.40-15.10: Panel discussion

15.10-15.20: Coffee break

Panel 3: Care work, health and rights (15.20-17.00)

Chair: Frances Pine, Goldsmiths, University of London, UK

15.20-16.30: Panel presentations

Petra Ezzedine, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
"Women on the sidelines": transnational social rights and ageing with refugee experience

Christiane Falge, Bochum University of Applied Sciences, Germany
Health conditions and rights in health care access among vulnerable communities: insights from the city lab Bochum

Annette Fagertun, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Bergen
The anti-politics of healthcare policy and its blurring effects on care work in Norway

16.30 - 17.00: Panel discussion

17.00-17.15: ***Final comments/workshop summary:*** Frances Pine