

Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology

Care: Exploring hierarchies and social transformations

Workshop 1: 08.-09. April 2019

Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Universitätsstraße 7



Sara Lei Sparre, PhD, is a social anthropologist and Assistant Professor at the Department of Anthropology, Aarhus University in Denmark. Her overall fields of interest stem from long-term research

experience in the Middle East and Denmark. Her research concerns the anthropology of Islam, Christianity and interfaith relations; youth, age and generations; political activism, citizenship and the (welfare) state; ethnic and religious minorities; and more recently, ageing and care among ethnic minorities.



Petra Ezzeddine, Ph.D. is a social anthropologist. She lectures at the Department of Anthropology and Gender Studies, Faculty of Humanities (Charles University in Prague). Her ethnographic

research deals with gender aspects of migration, transnational forms of parenthood, the globalization of care for children and the elderly and female migrant domestic workers, gender and ageing in migration. She is a member of the editorial boards for Gender /Rovné příležitosti/Výzkum (Gender and Research) and the Journal of Human Affairs (Springer).

08.04.2019 3:30-6pm | Hörsaal A

Sara Lei Sparre

(Aarhus University)

Between care and contract: Ageing immigrants, self-appointed helpers and ambiguous belonging in the Danish welfare state

In Denmark, a growing number of ethnic minority families utilize an option in the Service Act under which municipalities can contract a family member to take care of an elderly citizen at home. I argue that this complex intercalary role of the self-appointed helper at the threshold between the immigrant family and the state is also a grey zone in the otherwise strongly regulated elderly care sector in Denmark. In order for the arrangement to work, care managers and helpers enter into a form of "silence contract" where they end up disregarding rules and legislation.

Petra Ezzeddine

(Charles University, Prague)

The gender of guilt: diversity and ambivalence of transnational care trajectories within postsocialist migration experience

I will analyse how specific transnational care practices are reflected in the personal life trajectories of women from former Yugoslavia with refugee experience in a post-socialist context in the Czech Republic. The focus will be on gendered norms and expectations on women's transnational care practices and their feelings of obligation, and explore specific coping strategies for dealing with practical and emotional challenges arising at the juncture of contradictory expectations.

09.04.2019 9-12am | Sitzungszimmer
Discussion with the speakers
Please register by 03. April:
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