

German Institute for Japanese Studies (DIJ Tokyo)

Gender and Sexuality in East Asia

(Joint Social Science and History & Humanities Study Group)



September 7, 2021, 6:30pm (JST)/11.30am (CEST)

Mobile professionals and their families: The making of transnational spaces in Tokyo from a male perspective

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Conceiving mobile corporate professionals as part of the growing transnational migrant population is a rather novel turn in migration research. Likewise, research on their families – including their trailing spouses and third culture kids – is an emerging field. Based on interviews with 43 male transnational corporate professionals in Tokyo, this lecture paper presents their take on the effects that their marrying and starting a family had on their socio-spatial patterns within the urban space. Whereas transnational professionals have been mostly researched in their functions and practices as economic actors, this study gives a new insight into their social and socio-spatial lives from a personal and thus individual migrant's perspective. Though relatively uncommon to take the masculine view on family and gender issues, the narratives of the working fathers and husbands still constitute a non-negligible piece of the overall picture of transnational families. Touching also upon issues of different patterns of binational/-cultural marriages, I will discuss how the extent and quality of transnational spaces transform over the life course.

Sakura Yamamura (PhD) is a postdoctoral researcher at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. Building on her PhD research on transnational professionals' socio-spatial patterns within the global city network but also within Tokyo, she is specialized in the spatiality of social and economic activities in migrant-led diversification of society or superdiversity in the urban context. She is the author of "Spatial Diversity in the Global City – Transnational Tokyo" (Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming) and articles in the Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies and the Oxford Handbook of Superdiversity.

About

The *Gender and Sexuality in East Asia*-Lecture Series is part of the DIJ's Social Science and History & Humanities Study Groups. The events are open to all. Further information can be found [here](#).

Online Presentation

Registration required via email to kottmann@dijtokyo.org until September 6, 2021.

Log in data will be provided after registration.