

PIERRE DU BOIS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023

WOMEN AND CHILDREN AS SITES OF INTERVENTION: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

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- › Geneva Graduate Institute
Maison de la paix, Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2, 1202 Genève, **Auditorium Part B**

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS



DR. ALEJANDRA RAMM

is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the Universidad de Valparaíso in Chile. She was awarded an MA in Social Research at Goldsmiths College (2001) and holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Cambridge (2014). She is currently researching on decentering gender and same-sex couples. She has recently co-edited a volume with Jasmine Gideon, *Motherhood, Social Policies and Women's Activism in Latin America* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020). She has published in the BMJ Open, the Journal of Latin American Studies and the Journal of Comparative Family Studies on abortion and on families/kinship and social policies. She has also researched educated indigenous women in Chile, co-editing the book *Rupturas e identidades* (RIL, 2015), and published a book on Chile's reformation of the penal process, *Imputados* (Diego Portales University Press, 2005).



ALEXA RAE BURK

Alexa Rae Burk is from the United States and is currently based in Switzerland where she is in her final year of PhD in International History and Politics at the Geneva Graduate Institute. Her doctoral research is focused on labour union internationalism from the 1970's and the International Union of Foodworkers (IUF). Alexa graduated in 2016 from Seattle Pacific University with a double bachelor's degree in History and Interdisciplinary Studies (Sociology, Literature, Political Science). In 2018 she completed her master's degree from Aarhus University, Denmark in International and Global History, specializing in humanitarian fundraising campaigns from the 1900's until today.



AMINATA BUGANZI KINANA

Aminata Buganzi Kinana is a doctoral candidate in the International History and Politics Department at the Geneva Graduate Institute. She has a Bachelor's in Euro-Africana Studies from Grinnell College (in the jewel of the prairie!) and an MPhil in African Studies from the University of Cambridge, where she was a Philomathia Africa Scholar. Aminata Buganzi's doctoral project is titled *Women, Colonial Hybridity and Nationalism: An Examination of Identity Formation in Zanzibar and Réunion*. This research project provides the first comparative study of the role of Zanzibari and Reunionese women in the history of colonial nationalisms and the evolution of cultures of hybridity in these islands. Zanzibar and Réunion house populations of African, Arab, Asian and European ancestries, proving ideal locations to explore the rhizome nature of identities. A study that centres on hybridity destabilises accepted binaries. This doctoral project will add to academic discussions on coloniality, but it is also an important opportunity to write in the central role women have played in the history of the African coast of the Indian Ocean. Aminata Buganzi is fluent in Swahili, English and French and has an advanced and intermediate-level understanding of Portuguese and German respectively, in addition to currently learning Spanish and Arabic.



DR. APRAJITA SARCAR

is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the Laureate Centre for History and Population, University of New South Wales. She has previously held a postdoctoral position at the Centre de Sciences Humaines, New Delhi. She works on everyday governance of reproductive health and population control programmes in post-colonial India. Her work is on the intersection of health, gender and urban histories of South Asia. She earned her PhD from the Department of History, Queen's University, Canada. She currently shuttles between Delhi and Sydney.



CARRIE SHELVER

manages the Geneva Office of the Sexual Rights Initiative. Carrie has over two decades of feminist organising and advocacy in the fields of sexuality, gender-based violence, health, and human rights in South Africa, regionally and globally. Carrie is committed to feminist popular education, arts-based activism and movement building to imagine feminist, anti-capitalism alternatives. Carrie has an educational background in political science and adult education.



DR. CHELSEA SCHIELDS

is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of California, Irvine. Her scholarship explores the entwined histories of sexuality, race, energy, and empire in the twentieth-century Caribbean and Europe. She is the author of *Offshore Attachments: Oil and Intimacy in the Caribbean*, forthcoming with the University of California Press in 2023, and co-editor with Dagmar Herzog of *The Routledge Companion to Sexuality and Colonialism* (Routledge, 2021). Recent articles have appeared in *Radical History Review* and *Gender & History*.



DR. CHIKAKO TAKESHITA

is an Associate Professor in the Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies at UC Riverside, where she also teaches in the Sustainability Studies program. While focusing on the intersection of science, technology, biomedicine and politics, Takeshita's main line of work investigates the construction of reproductive bodies within multiple spheres, including population policy, birth control, pregnancy, abortion, childbirth, and mothering. She is the author of *The Global Biopolitics of the IUD: How Science Constructs Contraceptive Users and Women's Bodies* (MIT 2012), which traces the development of the intra-uterine contraceptive device from the 1960s to the 2000s while illuminating the interactions between the social construction of science and technology and intersectional and transnational reproductive politics. Her secondary work draws on new material feminist theory to explore windows of opportunity for environmental and health justices. Native of Japan, Takeshita is currently working on her second book, tentatively titled, *Radioactive Speak: The Science and Politics of Radiation Exposure in Fukushima*.



DR. DESIREE LEWIS

is a Professor in the Women's and Gender Studies Department at the University of the Western Cape. She has transdisciplinary interests, although her original discipline is literary studies, and has published extensively in this field, with work including the book *Living on a horizon: Bessie Head and the Politics of Imagining*. Her most recent book is *Surfacing: On Being Black and Feminist in South Africa* (co-edited by Gabeba Baderoon), and she is currently the lead PI of a Mellon Funded programme on humanities-inflected food studies, a relatively new area of interest. Lewis has held various teaching positions and research fellowships both in South Africa as well as in countries including Germany, Finland, Sweden, the United States, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia and Uganda. Her teaching and research have consistently sought to focus on humanities-inflected approaches to literary, cultural visual texts, material culture and sexual, gendered and racialized embodiment and subjectivities.



DR. EMILY BAUGHAN

is a senior lecturer at the University of Sheffield, UK. Her first book, *Saving the Children: Humanitarianism, Internationalism and Empire* was published in 2021 with the University of California Press. It analyses the intersection of liberal internationalism and British imperialism, as expressed by a burgeoning humanitarian movement between the two world wars and during the era of decolonization. Her new project, provisionally titled *Neoliberalism in the Nursery*, analyses the roots of contemporary 'crises' in UK early years care and maternity services in a historical perspective.



DR. JADE SASSER

is an Associate Professor in the Department of Gender & Sexuality Studies at the University of California, Riverside. Her research explores the relationships between reproductive justice, women's health, and climate change. Her first book, *On Infertile Ground: Population Control and Women's Rights in the Era of Climate Change*, published in 2018 by NYU Press, won the Emory Elliott Book Award. Dr. Sasser has a PhD in Environmental Science, Policy, and Management from the University of California, Berkeley; an MA in Cultural Anthropology from UC Berkeley; and an MPH in Global Health from Boston University. Her current book in progress explores how race and climate anxiety are shaping reproductive desires, plans, and futures among young adults.



DR. JADWIGA PIEPER MOONEY

is a Professor of History at the University of Arizona. Her research is located at the intersection of Latin American-, Gender-, and Comparative/Global History, with special interests in women's rights, reproductive rights, and gender equity in the Americas. Her first monograph, *The Politics of Motherhood: Maternity and Women's Rights in Twentieth Century Chile* was published by University of Pittsburgh Press in 2009. She also published *Decentering Cold War History: Local and Global Change*. (Routledge, 2012) with Fabio Lanza; *The Global 1960s: Convention, Contest and Counterculture* (Routledge, 2017) with Tamara Chaplin, and has written about such themes as forced sterilization, women's rights as human rights, transnational feminisms, contraception and reproductive rights, and the politics of Chilean exile. She is currently completing a monograph titled *Women, Wombs and Medical Men in Modern Chile: Lessons from a Doctor's Journey* and is working on several edited volumes, including one on anti-genderism and gender-based violence in the Americas and a second titled *Border Crossings in the Americas: Gender, Sexuality, and Rights*.



DR. KATHARINA STORING

is Junior Professor of Cultural History at the International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture (GCSC) and the Department of History at Justus Liebig University Giessen. Currently, she works on the emergence and consolidation of transnational aid for children in the long nineteenth century. Her main research interests include women's and gender history, religious history, the history of photography and the cultural history of transnational aid and philanthropy. Among her recent publications on the history of humanitarianism are: *Afrikanische Kinder im internationalen Fokus: Personen, Netzwerke und Visionen auf der International Conference on African Children, 1931*, in: Arvid Schors / Fabian Klose (ed.), *Wie schreibt man Internationale Geschichte? Empirische Vermessungen zum 19. und 20. Jahrhundert* [Campus Verlag 2023]; *Gendering Global Humanitarianism. Practice, Politics and the Power of Representation during the Twentieth Century* (ed. with Esther Möller and Johannes Paulmann, London 2020); *Promoting Distant Children in Need. Christian Imagery in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries*, in: Johannes Paulmann (ed.), *Humanitarianism and Media, 1900 to the Present*, Oxford and New York (2019), 41–66.



DR. JUANITA DE BARROS

works in the Department of History at McMaster University and as the director of the Centre for Human Rights and Restorative Justice (CHRRJ). She is also the co-editor for the Cambridge University Press book series, *Histories of Slavery and its Global Legacies*. Her research and teaching concentrate on the history of the Caribbean, the social history of health and medicine in the colonial world, and the history of reproductive rights. She is the former president of the Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies and is affiliated with two research centres that focus on the Caribbean: the Centre for Research in Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CERLAC) and the Harriet Tubman Institute for Research in Africa and its Diasporas, both at York University. Her most recent books are *Reproducing the British Caribbean: Sex, Gender, and Population Politics after Slavery* (2014) and the co-edited essay collection, *Public Health and the Imperial Project* (2015). Her current research project focuses on the intersection between health and the law in the context of child incarceration in early 20th reformatories in the British Caribbean.



DR. LEIGHAN RENAUD

is lecturer in Caribbean Literatures and Cultures at the University of Bristol, UK. Her PhD research focused on representations of matrifocality in contemporary Anglophone Caribbean literature. Her research interests include Caribbean mothering, Caribbean women's writing and creative practices of neo-archiving. She has published works in *The Journal of West Indian Literature*, *The Conversation*, and *History Workshop Online*. Her forthcoming monograph, *Motherhood, Mothering and Marronage* (Peter Lang), examines the representation of matrifocality in twenty-first century Caribbean fiction and argues that matrifocality is represented not only as an integral component of family and community life, but also as an act of marronage and a symbol of resistance against patriarchal and Eurocentric normativity.



DR. LING MA

is a social and cultural historian of modern China living in the US. Her research focuses on everyday life and the entanglement of gender, law, medicine, and reproduction in early 20th-century China. Currently, she is completing a book manuscript titled *Mortal Labor: Abortion, Childbirth, and Reproductive Death in Modern China*.



MARTHA LILIANA ESPINOSA

is a PhD candidate in the Department of History at Duke University. She holds an MA in history from Duke University and an MA in gender studies from El Colegio de México. Espinosa Tavares' dissertation project explores the history of family planning in twentieth-century Mexico. She analyzes the key role of this country in the global movement for population control and asks how Mexico actively worked as a hub for the development of contraceptive technologies and their human trials. Her research has received support from Mexico's National Council of Science and Technology, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation/American Council for Learned Societies, and the Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine.



DR. MAUD BRACKE

is Professor in Modern European History at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, and co-Director of the Centre for Gender History there. She holds a PhD from the European University Institute in Florence and has held visiting positions at Sciences Po Paris, Ghent University, and Federico II in Naples. She currently coordinates an AHRC Leadership Fellowship entitled 'Inventing Reproductive Rights: Sex, Bodies and Population, 1945-1995'. She is a former editor of the journal *Gender & History*, and has published three books and around thirty articles in transnational feminism; abortion and contraception; '1968' in Europe; the European left; and women and work.



DR. MYTHELI SREENIVAS

is Professor of History and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Ohio State University, USA. She is the author of *Wives, Widows and Concubines: The Conjugal Family Ideal in Colonial India*, which received the Joseph Elder Prize in the Indian Social Sciences from the American Institute of Indian Studies, and *Reproductive Politics and the Making of Modern India*. She has also published her research in several scholarly journals, and she writes about reproductive politics for public audiences. Mytheli's teaching centers on reproductive justice, transnational feminisms, and modern South Asian history. She is also an executive board member of the Abortion Fund of Ohio.



DR. NATASHA ERLANK

is a Professor in the Department of History at the University of Johannesburg. After teaching briefly at UCT and Rhodes University, she has been at the University of Johannesburg since 1999. Her research interests lie principally in the history of gender, marriage, and sexuality within the broader context of colonialism and christianity in Southern Africa. She has most recently published on this in *Convening Black Intimacy: Christianity, Gender and Tradition in Early Twentieth Century South Africa* (Ohio, 2022). Her new work examines the history of reproductive health in Africa between the 1940s and the 1990s. It takes a comparative look at birth control policies and practices in the newly independent African states after the 1960s.



DR. NORITA MDEGE

is a research fellow at the Geneva Graduate Institute. She has a PhD in film studies from the University of Cape Town in South Africa. Her current research explores the representations of women politicians in Africa as a means to understand how such representations may impact their claims to political legitimacy. Her areas of interest include postcolonial studies, decolonial studies, gender studies, women and girls in Africa, youth studies, political conflict, African cinemas and cultural politics.



DR. OGECHUKWU WILLIAMS

is an Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Department of Medical Humanities and the Director of African Studies at Creighton University, Omaha NE, USA. Prior to her academic position, she was a reproductive health and HIV/AIDS advocate and peer education mentor for the National Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS Scheme in Nigeria. Her articles and reviews have appeared in several peer-reviewed outlets, including *Social History of Medicine*, *Journal of African History*, *Journal of African Art History and Visual Culture*, and *Africa*.



PAOLA SALWAN DAHER

is a feminist activist from the Lebanese diaspora. She is the Associate Director for Global Advocacy at the Center for Reproductive Rights, based in Geneva, and sits on the Board of Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights. She previously worked at the Collective for Research and Training on Development – Action in Beirut and the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies. Paola received her BA from the Graduate Institute for International Studies in Geneva and her LLM from the Geneva Academy for human rights and humanitarian law.



POKUA ODURO-BONSAH

is a PhD candidate in the department of International History and Politics at the Geneva Graduate Institute. She is part of the team of the Swiss National Science Foundation-funded project, *Decolonising the Psyche: The Politics of Ethnopsychology, 1930-1980*. Her particular research contributes to the history of developmental psychology, tracing different movements since the interwar period and its preoccupations with infantile socialisation. The aim of the study will be to analyse psychological and anthropological theories as well as its practitioners who sought to understand the mentality and rational abilities of 'the African' from childhood to maturity. Pokuaa holds a Master in Development Studies from the Graduate Institute. For her thesis, she looked at the role of hegemony and international organisations, using the United Nations as a case study.



SHRIYA PATNAIK

Shriya Patnaik is a PhD candidate (Department of International History and Politics) at the Geneva Graduate Institute where her research has been funded by the Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship and the Swiss National Science Foundation Doc.Ch Grant. Her research focuses on the historical genealogy surrounding discourses related to prostitution, trafficking, and sex-worker rights in colonial and postcolonial India. In particular, she focuses on the now-extinct matriarchal community of temple-dancers called Mahari-Devadasis in the state of Orissa in India (a matrilineal community categorized as 'religious prostitutes' in colonial India), along with their legal and healthcare rights under international humanitarian conventions. Her research is methodologically reliant on oral histories, colonial-period archival records, along with UN/ILO humanitarian conventions on the rights of marginalized communities in the Global South. Shriya has pursued her Bachelor's in History from Cornell University, and has subsequently pursued her Masters' in International History with a focus on Gender Studies from the Columbia University-London School of Economics dual degree MA-MSc program. Besides her academic interests, Shriya has actively worked in the public policy and NGO/development sectors in India on gender and human rights initiatives, and these experiences have played a crucial role in shaping her research focus on women's rights and minority rights initiatives in postcolonial societies at a transnational scale. Shriya is also a PhD affiliate with the Graduate Institute Gender Centre and the Global Migration Centre.



DR. SUSANNE KLAUSEN

is the Julia Gregg Brill Professor of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at The Pennsylvania State University. She is a historian and her main research areas are the history of fertility politics in modern South Africa, nationalism and sexuality, and transnational movements for reproductive justice. She is the author of *Race, Maternity, and the Politics of Birth Control in South Africa, 1910–1939* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2004) and *Abortion Under Apartheid: Nationalism, Sexuality, and Women's Reproductive Rights in South Africa* (Oxford University Press, 2015) that won the Women's History Prize awarded by the Canadian Committee on Women's History (2016) and the Joel Gregory Prize awarded by the Canadian Association of African Studies (2016). Klausen has published articles in a wide range of scholarly journals and is currently writing a monograph on the criminalization of interracial desire and heterosex in South Africa during apartheid (1948–1994).



DR. UMUT YILDIRIM

is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the Department of Anthropology and Sociology in the Geneva Graduate Institute. She specializes in transnational development programs and aid policies in war zones, forced military migration and gendered im/mobilities, and political and cultural mobilization with an ethnographic perspective from the Armenian/Kurdish region in Turkey. A manuscript for her first book, *Low Intensities: War, Extraction, and Resistance in a Middle Eastern Capital*, is in the works. She's currently editing a book volume on *Occupied Ecologies, An-archic Fragments* by ICI Press Berlin. Her research is available in platforms such as *Jadaliyya* (2022), *Current Anthropology* (2021, 2023 fc), and *Anthropological Theory* (2019). Previously, she held research fellowships at the Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA, Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology at FU Berlin, and the Institute for Cultural Inquiry, ICI Berlin, and taught political anthropology at Bilgi, Bogaziçi, and Sabanci Universities in Istanbul, Turkey.



DR. ZAKIYA LUNA

is an Associate Professor of Sociology and Dean's Distinguished Professorial Scholar at Washington University in Saint Louis. Her research, teaching and community work focuses on social movements, reproduction, human rights and intersectionality. She has published multiple peer-reviewed articles and chapters and secured multiple grants including from the National Science Foundation. Her research on the reproductive justice movement includes the book *Reproductive Rights as Human Rights: Women of Color and the Fight for Reproductive Justice* (NYU Press), which was included on the Oprah Daily list "The 12 Books You Need to Read Post the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* Smackdown." She is coeditor of *Black Feminist Sociology: Perspectives and Praxis* (Routledge) with Whitney Laster Pirtle. Her other writing includes contribution to *Ms.* and *Refinery 29*. Luna earned a joint PhD in Sociology and Women's Studies from University of Michigan, where she also earned a Master of Social Work. She was a UC President's Postdoctoral Fellow at UC Berkeley affiliated with the Departments of Gender and Women's Studies, Sociology and the Center for the Study of Law and Society. She was also the Mellon Sawyer Seminar Human Rights Postdoc at University of Wisconsin, a Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellow and member of inaugural cohort (2019) of Society of Family Planning Changemakers in Family Planning. She was recently named the 2023 Distinguished Feminist Lecturer Award by Sociologists for Women in Society.