

**DISSERTATION COMMITTEES, ACADEMIC YEAR 2007-08:  
CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS WHO ARE ABD  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF CA, DAVIS**

\*All faculty are from UC Davis unless otherwise noted\*

**ALKON, ALISON**

**Dissertation Title:** *Fresh Food, Fresh Ideas: The Social Construction of "Environment" and "Community" at Urban Farmers Markets*

**Committee Chair:** Tom Beamish, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Jim Cramer, Sociology  
Kimberly Nettles, Gender and Women Studies  
Julie Sze, American Studies

My dissertation looks at how participants in two urban farmers markets articulate and perform visions of environmental and community ideals. The markets I study vary widely by race and class, ranging from an elite, gourmet, 100% organic market in Berkeley's "gourmet ghetto" to one that seeks to support African-American farmers and small business owners while providing access to healthy food in an area with little access to grocery stores or other sources. I am also interested in the ways that participants in each market understand the relationship between local economics and environmental and community goals. My study combines literature on sustainable agriculture and more general environmental sociology that critiques agricultural production with an environmental justice orientation toward distribution. It also contributes to debates on the social construction of nature and community, offering insights into the role of practice in the establishment of these ideals. Practically, I hope to establish food as an important environmental issue and offer insights on how sustainable agriculture and environmental justice can be useful to each other.

**APESOA-VARANO, CAROLINA**

**Dissertation Title:** *Medicine and Caring: Healthcare Providers at Work*

**Committee Chair:** Vicki Smith, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Carole Joffe, Sociology  
Ming-cheng Lo, Sociology  
Beth Bechky, Graduate School of Management

**Abstract:**

This research focuses on a teaching hospital, healthcare providers' experiences, and the relationship between providers' organizational positions and their attitudes towards professionalism and caring. I used an ethnographic approach that combines observation and in-depth interviewing. Observations allowed me to collect data on the hospital's social dynamics as providers perform their jobs, while interviews rendered a deeper understanding of providers' attitudes towards professionalism and caring. I also interviewed patients informally as they may have an impact on how providers see themselves. I analyze how the culture of the workplace and the organization of the hospital shape occupational identity among healthcare providers. My research seeks to advance our understanding of how workplace conditions in healthcare influence providers' professional identification and orientations to caring.

## **BAKEHORN, JILL**

**Dissertation Title:** *Creating an Authentic Fantasy: How Women-Made Porn Constructs “Real” Sex*

**Committee Chair:** Laura Grindstaff, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Lyn Lofland, Sociology

### **Abstract:**

I draw upon my qualifying paper research which examined women's narratives of sex-positive feminism in the context of making pornography as a form of activism. I further explore how activist ideologies are not only articulated, but negotiated and refined in the process of making commercial films. A key part feature of the work done by these women is the focus on authenticity. My dissertation explores why and how these narratives of authenticity are constructed as well as put into practice. Authenticity is an important way for the women in my study to set themselves and their work apart from the mainstream industry and involves making identity claims as well as featuring “real” bodies doing “real” things. I utilized qualitative methods including in-depth, semi-structured interviews as well as fieldwork.

## **BECKER, JAIME**

**Dissertation Title:** *Seeing the Forest: Global Gender Inequality*

**Committee Chair:** Fred Block, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Drew Halfmann, Sociology

Jack Goldstone, School of Public Policy, George Mason University

Gender systems have been in place across remarkably different societies and cultures across both space and time. Despite the varying content, structures, and organization of these systems, what remains nearly universal is a binary relational system of gender that produces inequality, to varying degrees, between women and men. Scholars find that gains in equality on one axis or another (i.e. proportional participation in the paid labor market or formal legislative equality) do not fundamentally change structures and ideologies of inequality. Thus far, no clear map has emerged to elucidate the tenacity of gender systems in the face of change. More and better empirical analyses of the mechanisms that perpetuate inequality in the realm of politics, the economy, and cultural ideology are needed. This dissertation research will begin to take on the challenge through a multi-method analysis of gender inequality on a global scale. Through quantitative data, I will identify salient indicators of gender in/equality to create an index by nation state. Using qualitative paired case comparisons I will generate hypotheses about why nation states fall where they do on the in/equality index. Key gendered variables will be used to test hypotheses through statistical regressions. I hope to construct a robust causal model that will guide social movement, economic development, and state policy-making activity in producing greater gender equality.

## **BISCOTTI, DINA**

**Dissertation Title:** *University-Industry Relationships in the Field of Agricultural Biotechnology*

**Committee Chair:** William Lacy, Community and Regional Development

**Committee Members:** Fred Block, Sociology  
Leland Glenna, Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology,  
Pennsylvania State University

**Abstract:**

In my dissertation I will analyze in-depth interviews with over 200 scientists and administrators from nine U.S. universities and thirty agricultural biotechnology companies to address the following research questions: Is there evidence of increasing organizational homogenization or differentiation between universities and private companies in the field of agricultural biotechnology? What are the interests of academic and industry scientists and administrators in the field of agricultural biotechnology and what are the means by which they pursue these interests? These questions are of sociological significance for scholars of science, organizations and institutions and of broader social significance for those concerned with commercial influence on academic science in fields like agricultural biotechnology. Many scholars of university-industry relationships assert that the institutional boundaries between academic and commercial science in knowledge-intensive fields like biotechnology are becoming blurred. However, when a field is comprised of organizations embedded in historically variant institutional contexts, institutional legitimacy may hinge on the capacity of certain types of organizations to distinguish themselves from other types of organizations in a field. The predicted homogenization of organizations within a field must be subjected to extensive empirical investigation. DiMaggio and Powell claim that organizations in a field may be diverse along some dimensions while homogeneous along others. I hypothesize that organizational homogenization will occur between organizations in a field along dimensions that enhance their institutional legitimacy and be resisted along dimensions that threaten their institutional legitimacy.

**COLLINS, GREG**

**Dissertation Title:** *The Architecture of Somalia's Conflict Economy: Governance Structures, Regulatory Mechanisms, and Institutional Arrangements in a Failed State*

**Committee Chair:** John Walton, Sociology  
**Committee Members:** Fred Block, Sociology  
Nicole Biggart, Graduate School of Management  
Outside Member: to be determined

**Abstract:**

Somalia has been without a central government since the collapse of the state in 1991. Contrary to popular portrayals, however, statelessness has not meant disorder. My research focuses on the emergence, social and historical roots, and conflict-embedded-ness of the non-state structures, regulatory mechanisms and institutional arrangements that have surfaced in the wake of state collapse to govern Somalia's economy. Of particular interest is the degree to which these represent an amalgamation of clan-based and religious forms that pre-date the state and novel solutions to Somalia's unique position as a state-less entity in an era of increasing global economic integration. I also examine the degree to which the profitability and power associated with the purveyors of these non-state forms - as well as their reliance on violence as both a regulatory mechanism and means of maintaining the conditions under which they have flourished - are an impediment to state (re)formation.

## **COLLINS-DOGRUL, JULIE**

**Dissertation Title:** *Managing Transnational Problems for the National Good: U.S.-Mexico 'Border Health,' 1942-2002.*

**Committee Chair:** Vicki Smith

**Committee Members:** Fred Block

Miroslava Chavez-Garcia, Chicana/Chicano Studies

Michael P. Smith, Community and Regional Development

### **Abstract:**

This dissertation elaborates a broker-centered theory of transnational organizational fields to explain how U.S. and Mexican non-profit and government organizations coalesce around shared public health problems. Using historical comparative methods and multiple data sources, including organizational documents, interviews, and congressional archives, I analyze the emergence, cohesion, and transformation of the border health sector. I explain how broker organizations foster transnational networks, culture, and regulations - but also how they enable the U.S. to pursue national interests in Mexico – interests that shape a particular border health social problem construction that privileges some patients, public health problems, and programs over others. Thus, while this dissertation shows how organizations can work together on transnational social problems is also a cautionary tale that illustrates how power inequalities operate within transnational fields to influence agendas, ultimately creating social problem constructions that reflect the interests of dominant actors.

## **EBERT, KIM**

**Dissertation Title:** *Racialized Organizations, 1950-2000*

**Committee Chair:** Mary Jackman, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Bruce Haynes, Sociology

Dina Okamoto, Sociology

Tyrone Forman, Sociology and African American Studies; Institute of Government and Public Affairs; Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago

### **Abstract:**

I seek to analyze the conditions that encourage the formation of “racialized” organizations between 1950 and 2000. This sample of organizations includes the spectrum of racial, ethnic, and national organizations, including radical white extremist groups, less radical white supremacist groups, racial and ethnic minority groups, racially conservative organizations, and white ethnic and/or immigrant organizations. My goals in this project are twofold. First, I plan to document the trends in racialized protest, advocacy, and service organizations during the second half of the twentieth century. Second, I plan to analyze some of the patterns revealed by the initial description. Using data from *The Encyclopedia of Associations* (and supplemented with additional organizational databases) and the U.S. Census, I will address two questions: What conditions encourage the formation of “racialized” protest, advocacy, and service organizations? Does the formation and presence of racial-ethnic minority organizations spark the formation of racially conservative (such as the “colorblind”) organizations?

## **FRANCIS, ARA**

**Dissertation Title:** *Bearing Imperfect Children: Raising Kids with Problems in an Era of Anxiety and Medicalization*

**Committee Chair:** Lyn Lofland, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Laura Grindstaff, Sociology  
Anita Garey, Sociology, University of Connecticut

### **Abstract:**

Despite tremendous gains in children's health and safety in the last century, parenting in the United States has become an increasingly anxious affair. Some research suggests that intensive parenting – a labor intensive, child-centered, expert-guided, and financially expensive approach to child rearing – has become the ideal, particularly among middle-class families. Given this context, my dissertation asks: what are the experiences of parents whose children have significant troubles? In this era of anxious, intensive parenting, what is it like to parent a “problem child?” To address this question, I interviewed fifty-five mothers and fathers whose children had a wide array of physical, psychological, and behavioral problems. One aspect of my analysis explores parents' role in the social construction and medicalization of children's troubles. A second examines the wide-ranging impacts of children's problems on parents' lives, focusing on parents' accounts of stigma and loneliness, responsibility and guilt, and loss and grief.

## **FREEDMAN, LORI**

**Dissertation Title:** *Abortion Practice Patterns, Life Course and Identity of New Obstetricians and Gynecologists*

**Committee Chair:** Carol Joffe, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Drew Halfmann, Sociology  
Sharon Kaufman, Institute for Health and Aging, University of California, San Francisco

### **Abstract:**

This research investigates the social and professional world of new physicians of obstetrics and gynecology, especially in relation to abortion. In-depth interviews were conducted with obstetricians and gynecologists from residency programs that include strong abortion training components. The subjects of study have graduated between five and ten years prior to the interview and are included regardless of whether they currently offer abortion services or not. Interviews and analyses aim to discern how practice patterns, identity, and general life course may be shaped by exposure to abortion care early in their career. This research is informed by literature relating to the socialization of health professionals, the politics of abortion, stigma, and the conceptualization of personhood. Goals of the dissertation include filling a need for new qualitative data in abortion research, answering questions about why the number of physicians willing to provide abortion care is currently waning, and arriving at a nuanced understanding of this morally complex and highly political arena in medical world.

## **HERNANDEZ, JESUS**

**Dissertation Title:** *Three Shades of Red: Mortgage Redlining and the Crisis of Social Reproduction in Sacramento*

**Committee Chair:** Michael Peter Smith, Community and Regional Development  
**Committee Members:** Fred Block, Sociology  
Bruce Haynes, Sociology  
Gregory Squires, George Washington University

**Abstract:**

This dissertation shows how historically race-based patterns of residential segregation and suburbanization are intrinsically connected to the subprime loan and foreclosure crisis we see today. To demonstrate this connection, I use a case study of mortgage lending patterns in Sacramento, California, a metropolitan area noted for its diverse population but a place that is currently experiencing one of the highest foreclosure rates in the nation. Three critical points highlight this research. First, highly influenced by the real estate industry, federal housing policy created the institutional framework necessary for both residential segregation and contemporary subprime lending to take place via market structures. Second, housing policy created a series of structural conditions that isolated some communities from social, political and economic networks, thus leaving them vulnerable to economic disaster. Finally, this case study of Sacramento shows that the roots of the current housing crisis are found in residential segregation and bank deregulation. Accordingly, this case study demonstrates how the combination of historical and contemporary housing policies left racially segregated neighborhoods vulnerable to capital extraction and the resulting economic and social catastrophes brought on by the meltdown of the globally leveraged deregulated subprime loan industry.

**JONES, MELANIE**

**Dissertation Title:** *Information Matters: How Class Shapes College Knowledge Among African Americans*

**Committee Chair:** Mary Jackman (Co-chair), Dina Okamoto (Co-chair)  
**Committee Members:** Eric Grodsky, Sociology, University of Minnesota  
Bruce Haynes, Sociology  
Patricia Gandara (School of Education, UCLA)

**Abstract:**

Past research shows that increased levels of college information are associated with higher college aspirations and rates of attendance. However, we know little about how social class influences access to and use of college information among African Americans. This project examines how the social class background of African American high school students shapes the ways in which they obtain and use college information from sources both within and outside of high school. I use ethnographic methods, interviews, and observations at a public high school in California to study ninth- and eleventh-grade African American students and their parents, teachers, and counselors over the course of about two school years. I provide a unique approach to studying the interplay of structure and agency, as well as the activation of cultural and social capital, in how students gain and use college information to make college choices. I contribute to past research on college choice by showing that quantity and quality of college information matters, but that college information is most profitable when students know how to use it to their advantage. I also show that working-class African Americans are particularly sensitive to using college information sources outside of high school, such as family, friend, and community networks, which is influential for research on the role of race and class in access to and use of social ties.

## **KALOGRIDES, DEMETRA**

**Dissertation Title:** *Community College Transfer and Degree Attainment*

**Committee Chair:** Eric Grodsky, Sociology  
**Committee Members:** Kimberlee Shauman, Sociology  
Michal Kurlaender, Education

### **Abstract:**

In this dissertation, I study pathways to and from community colleges both nationally and in California. I find that the community college is an effective route to a baccalaureate degree for students who transfer. Transfer rates remain low, however, and although they vary considerably among different community colleges, it remains unclear which policies or practices distinguish colleges that are relatively more successful in promoting transfer among their students. Disadvantaged students and those with weak academic backgrounds often make their way to community colleges after struggling in four-year institutions. Although these reverse transfers do not fare as well as students with exclusive four-year college enrollment, they do appear to have more favorable outcomes than otherwise similar students who drop out of postsecondary school altogether after initially enrolling in a four-year school.

## **KELLER, MATT**

**Dissertation Title:** *The Socio-Cultural Basis of Governance Discourses: Global Intellectual Culture and the Shifting Terrain of Official Explanations of Collective Violence*

**Committee Chair:** Fred Block, Sociology  
**Committee Members:** Patrick Carroll, Sociology  
John Walton, Sociology  
Sean O’Riain, Sociology, National University of Ireland – Maynooth

### **Abstract:**

For more than two centuries, democratic states have deployed prominent commissions of inquiry to investigate a host of controversial issues. Commission narratives have often critically shaped new legislative initiatives, framed public and policy debates, and stimulated academic research programs. Commission reports have also generated resistance: accusations of a one-sided “whitewash” have often provided a substantial impetus for the generation of counter-narratives, and bolstered the work of a host of social movements. Commissions have, nevertheless, been largely overlooked in much socio-historical research; the rare studies which have taken commissions as a phenomenon *sui generis* have overwhelmingly regarded them as embedded in either case-specific or nationally-bounded political contexts. In my dissertation I broaden the scope of such analyses through an analysis of 25 commission reports concerned with perhaps the most contentious of dynamics within a state: crises of legitimacy engendered by collective violence and the state’s use of force against its own citizens. Through a comparative and historical analysis of commission reports – the universe of 20<sup>th</sup> century collective violence commissions across five nations – I show that the explanatory tropes deployed by federal-level violence commissions are historically patterned in distinct, temporally bound logics that cross-cut both local concerns and national political contexts. The patterning of these explanatory logics has substantial implications for the ways that states have historically constructed the “legitimate” use of violence and set in motion particular types of governance regimes. But what causes such global temporal patterning? I argue that global violence commission logics are embedded within a global politico-intellectual culture, a

culture which is, in turn, impacted by large-scale political processes and their relation to academic theories and inter-professional territorial struggles. By recasting these high-profile governance discourses as intertwined with broad currents in intellectual and political history, the dissertation suggests a new way of interpreting – and impacting – trends in commission processes and findings, and offers insights into the relation between the construction of knowledge and discourses of governance.

### **KIRKPATRICK, LUCAS**

**Dissertation Title:** *Liquid Disaster: The Rise of Local Infrastructural Politics in New Orleans*

**Committee Chair:** Michael Peter Smith, Community/Regional Development

**Committee Members:** Fred Block, Sociology  
Michael McQuarrie, Sociology  
Neil Brenner, Sociology, NYU

#### **Abstract:**

The infrastructural control of the water, energy, and waste (inter alia) circulating into and out-of cities is an indispensable precondition for urbanization. Water control systems, in particular, tend to be deeply related to social power and the political, economic, discursive, and socio-ecological struggles that flow from its deployment. It appears, furthermore, that “infrastructural politics” is currently being restructured, rescaled, and re-legitimated; a process that is changing the ways decisions about urban infrastructure are socially, financially, and politically adjudicated. In short, while infrastructure networks once provided the relatively unproblematic backdrop for urban development politics, they are increasingly becoming the very substance of such politics. As urban infrastructures gain visibility, the social relationships that underlie them are opened-up for re-negotiation. Thus, it is my hypothesis that urban infrastructures are rapidly becoming potent sites of social contestation and local political struggle. The changing nature of the infrastructural politics of water control is vividly demonstrated in the case of New Orleans—specifically its levee system and its water/sewer networks. There are two broad prongs of my research methodology. First, I will analyze Hurricane Katrina as a key “rupture” in the political practices associated with the city’s water control systems. To this end, I will be conducting in-depth interviews with actors involved in the disaster. Secondly, I will be collecting and analyzing archival resources in an attempt to put the current “rupture” in historical perspective.

### **MEYERS, JOAN**

**Dissertation Title:** *Workplace Democracy and Worker Identity in Worker-Owned Cooperatives*

**Committee Chair:** Vicki Smith, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Fred Block, Sociology  
Ming-cheng Lo, Sociology  
Miriam Wells, Human and Community Development

#### **Abstract:**

My dissertation research centers on two large (100+) democratic workplaces that initially utilized informal, face-to-face control and became successful, financially stable companies with highly formalized organizational structures. However, while one organization developed managerial control through the hierarchical and wage-stratified division of labor, the other instituted worker control through

dense, decentralized participatory and representative democratic practices. I argue that neither was the inevitable outcome of member demographics or market forces, and that greater attention must be paid to the actual enactment of workplace democracy. The project will demonstrate what effects each organization's structure has on the (re)production of social inequalities within the similarly diverse memberships—an issue crucial not only to start-up labor-managed firms assessing benefits and losses of different organizational structures, but also to scholars seeking to understand how agency is mediated in democratic polities. As transnational capital moves jobs overseas, sustainable jobs with livable wages are priorities for working-class and marginalized communities. Worker-owned and labor-managed businesses are a possible means to this end, but research is needed to understand how this can be broadly achieved. My dissertation explores how questions of how class, race, gender, and sexuality emerge as workplace issues (or not) as a way in which workers are able to make claims within the workplace. Drawing on records, individual and group interviews, surveys, and participant observation at the organizations over a three-year period, this multi-method study will elaborate the effects of different trajectories of industrial democracy in multicultural societies.

### **MOOREHEAD, ROBERT**

**Dissertation Title:** *Migrant Castle Town: Japanese Natives, Peruvian Migrants, and the Struggle for Integration in Central Japan*

**Committee Chair:** Lyn Lofland, Sociology

**Committee members:** Bruce Haynes, Sociology

John Lie, Sociology, University of California, Berkeley

#### **Abstract:**

Through ethnographic study, this research explores a neighborhood in the city of Inuyama, in central Japan, which has only recently experienced an influx of foreign migrants and has one of Japan's largest settlements of Peruvians. This study analyzes the impact of that influx on the neighborhood, asking questions such as: What is the nature and extent of Peruvian integration into the surrounding community? What consequences does the Japanese presumption of Japan's racial and ethnic homogeneity have for Peruvian migrants, and, conversely, what consequences does that settlement have for the Japanese presumption? What are the nature and extent of relations between the Japanese and Peruvian residents? What role can/will an enlarging Peruvian population play in the neighborhood? In addition to participant observation, my methods include taking the role of a volunteer in local community organizations, performing intensive interviews, and inspecting demographic and archival data. My anticipated results will address the growing issue of the integration of foreign migrant workers into Japan, a country that only recently has become a destination for foreign workers.

### **NIYOGI, SANGHAMITRA**

**Dissertation Title:** *Internal Ethnicity: Identification Processes of Two Ethno-Religious Communities in the San Francisco Bay Area.*

**Committee Chair:** Bruce Haynes, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Laura Grindstaff, Sociology

Sunaina Maira, Asian American Studies

**Abstract:**

Internal ethnicity refers to the presence of ethnic groups within an immigrant group (Bozorgmehr, 1997). For these groups, pre-migration ethnicity often overrides national identities and forms the bases of ethnic identity and ethnicity in the receiving societies. This project will compare and contrast the identification processes of two ethno-religious sub groups within the larger population of Asian Indians in the San Francisco bay area, namely: Bengali-Hindus and Punjabi-Sikhs. Sixty Asian Indian immigrants in the bay area will be interviewed, 15 each from the groups: Punjabi Sikh first generation; Punjabi Sikh second generation; Bengali-Hindu first generation and Bengali-Hindu second generation. This study will address the following research questions: What are the determinants of ethnic identity for the Punjabi-Sikhs and the Bengali-Hindus? What role does internal ethnicity play in shaping their identity? Does the examination of a sub-group's interpretation/appropriation of its own internal ethnicity advance our understanding of the implications for mobility, class reproduction and pan ethnic group formation? For the immigrants in my sample, the identification and adaptation processes are complicated by the fact that unlike the Chinese and the Japanese who are considered Asian, the racial classification of Asian Indians in the US is still ambiguous. I build on the work of several scholars (Waters 1999, Bozorgmehr 1997 and Lamont 1992), using an analytical frame which is based on the assumption that individuals do not draw boundaries out of their experiences, interests, or social position alone. The interaction of cultural-structural factors shape immigrants' perceptions in important ways (Lamont, 1992).

**RUDE, JESSE**

**Dissertation Title:** *Interracial Friendships in Context: Their Formation, Development, and Impact*

**Committee Chair:** Dina G. Okamoto, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Mary R. Jackman, Sociology  
Mignon R. Moore, Sociology, UCLA

**Abstract:**

Drawing on in-depth interviews with 60 working-age adults, my dissertation explores the ways interracial friendships form, develop, and impact the lives of those who engage in them. Ethnographic research at two racially integrated settings in Los Angeles (a church and an artistic venue) provided access to black and white individuals with close friends of another race and to contexts in which these relationships routinely form and develop. While existing research mainly focuses on the sociometric determinants of friendship segregation, my dissertation examines individual narratives in order to delineate more clearly the processes of forming and maintaining friendships across racial boundaries and to assess the personal and social impact these relationships have. Through a careful analysis of informant accounts, my research finds that interracial friendships present different challenges and offer different advantages for whites and blacks. I particularly highlight the strategies that individuals of both racial groups employ to ensure that their interracial friendships are successful and explore some of the reasons that cross-race friendships may be vulnerable to tension/dissolution. My dissertation demonstrates that organizations and networks are critical to the formation of interracial friendships, and it also highlights the ways cross-race ties shape the contexts in which they are embedded.

**YAMAGUCHI, MAKIKO**

**Dissertation Title:** *The Japanese Feminist Movement and Right-Wing Resurgence: Framing, Identity, and Visions for the Nation*

**Committee Chair:** Diane Wolf, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Fred Block, Sociology  
Drew Halfmann, Sociology  
Sabine Fruhstuck, East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies,  
University of California, Santa Barbara

**Abstract:**

Following the 1975 United Nations initiatives, the feminist movement in Japan became a successful advocate for gender policies. However, in the last five years an anti-feminist movement has surfaced, rapidly expanding its influential network in the state. This has undermined government support for feminist goals such as sex education and the notion of gender as socially constructed. The feminist movement is now reconsidering its relationship with the state. My dissertation research proposes to analyze the Japanese feminist movement's rhetorical strategies for keeping gender equality on the policy agenda amidst the anti-feminist backlash. As anti-feminism is a central aim of emerging conservative and fundamentalist movements around the world, this case study has much relevance beyond Japan. Through content analysis of the media and official documents and ethnographic research, my project compares the Japanese feminist movement's framing strategies in two policy areas (education and employment) and feminists' participation in two geographic locations. It seeks to answer: 1) How does the feminist movement frame its issues? 2) How are the movement's framing strategies influenced by the external environment and the internal debate about the movement's relationship with the state? 3) What positions does the movement take in specific debates about women's position in society and economy? 4) How does the movement theorize the relationship between the individual and the collectivity? My dissertation research treats Japanese feminists as proactive actors in policy-making rather than passively reacting to the changing political environment.

**ZHU, YIFEI**

**Dissertation Title:** *Globalization and Changes in Local Value Orientations: Gender, Family and Sexual Norms in China*

**Committee Chair:** Xiaoling Shu and Diane Felmlee, Sociology

**Committee Members:** Mary Jackman, Sociology

**Abstract:**

My dissertation investigates how Western culture and ideology, accompanying its economic influence, reshaped the Chinese value orientations on gender, family and sexual norms. How have gender, family and sexual attitudes changed in China during the past several decades? What are the major catalysis of these changes accompanying China's accelerating integration into the world capitalist market? How does macro-level social transformation interplay with micro-level factors in shaping individual attitudes, beliefs and ideology? Through what mechanisms are these changes taking place? I expect the exploration of these questions can shed light on the perception and reality of gender inequality in China in particular, as well as the process of globalization and value change in general. My analysis is based on data from two levels. Individual-level data come from the 1991 and 2000 Chinese Women's Social Status Survey, the 2000 Chinese Health and Family Life Survey, the 1990, 1995 and 2001 World Values Survey-China Survey, and the 2002 and 2006 Asia Barometer-China Survey. Community-level data are compiled by myself using published Statistical Yearbooks and the 2000 census in China. Using multilevel models to analyze both individual and community level data, I argue that education is a vehicle of socialization through which values promoted by the Western culture and the Communist Party state are diffused through the Chinese population. The uneven pace of this transition reflects the values advanced by both the globalization forces and the domestic elite at different historical times.

Students who are ABD but no abstract available:

Dick, Brian

Gregson, Jennifer

Ovink, Sarah

Silva, Eric

Traugot, Michael

~Compiled by JoAnna Rodgers, Graduate Program Coordinator