Marketing Male Supremacy? Gendered Competency Beliefs and China’s Market Transition

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Friday, October 14, 12:00-1:30pm
Held on Zoom, online: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/2452048847
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Many forms of gender inequality are justified on the basis of diffuse status beliefs about men’s generally greater competence. Although such generalized male-supremacist beliefs tend to decline with socioeconomic modernization, survey data shows an increasing prevalence of these beliefs in China over the past three decades. This ideological shift has been accompanied by a rise of gender-traditional behaviors, which some feminist scholars have attributed to the ascendance of market forces. Using five waves of nationally representative survey data (2010-2017), this study is the first to explore the link between marketization and gender status beliefs in China. Results show that this relationship is complex and contingent.

The Epistemological Asymmetry of Framing “Woman” via U.S. Women’s Rights Pioneers

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Wednesday, October 19, 2:30-3:45pm
SSMS 3145 (in person)

19th century U.S. social activist contemporaries Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Sojourner Truth are publicly memorialized as women’s rights pioneers. These figures’ historical proximity presents an instructive case to explore the epistemological and political stakes of claiming “woman” as a category of aggrievement and its sharp contours of race and citizenship status. To this end, I perform a textual analysis of “Declaration of Sentiments” (1848) by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, “Declaration of Rights of the Women of the United States” (1876) by Susan B. Anthony, and “Ain’t I a Woman?” (1851) by Sojourner Truth. This article reimagines U.S. women’s rights histories by introducing a conceptual toolkit that interlaces feminist and social epistemology with social movement theory.