

THURSDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2014

08:45 REGISTRATION

09:00 WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

WEI-JUN JEAN YEUNG, Changing Family Cluster Leader, Asia Research Institute,
and Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore

YINGCHUN JI, Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

09:15 – 10:15 KEYNOTE ADDRESS 1

CHAIRPERSON | **WEI-JUN JEAN YEUNG**, National University of Singapore

09:15 **Clashes of Culture, Social Systems, and Family Behavior in Asia**
ARLAND THORNTON, University of Michigan, USA

10:00 Question & Answer

10:15 TEA BREAK

10:45 – 12:45 PANEL 1: LINGERING PATRIARCHAL NORM AND INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

CHAIRPERSON | **SHIRLEY HSIAO-LI SUN**, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

10:45 **Navigating Tradition and Modernity: Marriage Dilemmas of Emerging Adult Women in Contemporary India**
SHAGUFA KAPADIA, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, India

11:15 **The “Feminine Mystique” Under Market Hegemony: Media’s Framing of Women’s Work- and-Family Issues in Contemporary China**
FEINIAN CHEN, University of Maryland, College Park, USA

11:45 **Trapped between Traditional and Modern Roles: Single, Educated Women in Shanghai**
YINGCHUN JI, National University of Singapore

12:15 Question & Answer

12:45 LUNCH

13:45 – 15:45 PANEL 2: CHANGING MEANING OF MARRIAGE

CHAIRPERSON | **JUYEON KIM**, National University of Singapore

13:45 **The Changing Meaning of Marriage (and Family) in Taiwan**
YU-HUA CHEN, National Taiwan University

14:15 **Trends in Attitudes Toward Marriage and Cohabitation in the Philippines**
JEOFREY B. ABALOS, Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, Philippines

14:45 **How Do Never-married Women View Women's Place in the Family and Society? An Exploratory Study of Women in Bangkok, 1997 and 2012**
JOO EAN TAN, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

15:15 Question & Answer

15:45 TEA BREAK

THURSDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2014

16:15 – 18:15 PANEL 3: CHANGES IN ATTITUDES REGARDING FAMILY

CHAIRPERSON | **BUSSARAWAN TEERAWICHITCHAINAN**, Singapore Management University

16:15 **Family Value and Marriage Behavior in Modern China**

W. JEAN YEUNG, National University of Singapore

SHU HU, National University of Singapore

16:45 **Impacts of Life-stage Transitions on Women's Family-related Attitudes in Korea**

ERIN HYE-WON KIM, National University of Singapore

ADAM KA-LOK CHEUNG, National University of Singapore

17:15 **Transition from Son Preference to Daughter Preference in Korea?**

KI-SOO EUN, Seoul National University, South Korea

17:45 Question & Answer

18:15 END OF DAY ONE

18:30 CONFERENCE DINNER (FOR SPEAKERS, CHAIRPERSONS, AND INVITED GUESTS ONLY)

FRIDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 2014

09:00 – 10:00 KEYNOTE ADDRESS 2

CHAIRPERSON | **GAVIN JONES**, National University of Singapore

09:00 **Networks, Institutions, Attitudes and Behavior: How Marriage and Fertility Change Can Occur**
RONALD R. RINDFUSS, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA, and East-West Center, USA

09:45 Question & Answer

10:00 TEA BREAK

10:30 – 12:30 PANEL 4: STATE, RELIGION AND POLICY

CHAIRPERSON | **XIAO HONG**, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

10:30 **Islam, State and Patriarchal Dividends: A Study of the Family Support Division of the Syariah Judicial Department of Malaysia**
MAZNAH MOHAMAD, National University of Singapore

11:00 **Single and the City: State Influences on the Intimate Relationships of Young, Well-educated, Single Women in Singapore**
KARLIEN STRIJBOSCH, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

11:30 **The Effects of Religion on Fertility-related Attitudes in Japan, South Korea and Singapore**
HIROSHI KOJIMA, Waseda University, Japan

12:00 Question & Answer

12:30 LUNCH

13:30 – 15:00 PANEL 5: ARE FAMILY FORMATION PATTERN CONVERGING OR DIVERGING IN ASIA

CHAIRPERSON | **PREMCHAND DOMMARAJU**, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

13:30 **Convergence of Marriage Systems in Asia?**
GAVIN W. JONES, National University of Singapore

14:00 **Enduring Marriages in India: Implications on Fertility and Gender**
K S JAMES, Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), India

14:30 Question & Answer

15:00 TEA BREAK

15:30 – 17:00 PUBLICATION DISCUSSION & CLOSING REMARKS

17:00 END OF CONFERENCE

KEYNOTE ADDRESS 1

Clashes of Culture, Social Systems, and Family Behavior in Asia

ARLAND THORNTONFaculty of Sociology, and Population Studies Center
University of Michigan, USA

arlandt@umich.edu

This paper examines the clashes of culture, social systems, and family behavior that have been occurring for a century or more in Asia. I begin with a focus on the social structures, cultures, and family systems that previously characterized these societies, recognizing the large variations that have existed among societies of the region. I then examine the social structures, cultures, and family systems that have originated in the West and been disseminated worldwide under various labels such as world culture, modernity, progress, and developmental idealism. My focus emphasizes the many kinds of cultural clashes that have resulted—including those across national boundaries, within countries, among family members, within the heads of individuals, and between cultural scripts and behavior. I anticipate drawing materials from several parts of Asia.

Arland THORNTON is Professor of Sociology at the University of Michigan, USA, where he is also a Research Professor at the Population Studies Center and Survey Research Center. He is a social demographer who has served as president of the Population Association of America and currently holds a MERIT award from the National Institutes of Health. For much of his career, Thornton has focused on the study of family and demographic issues, with a particular emphasis on marriage, cohabitation, divorce, childbearing, intergenerational relations, and gender roles. He has received four awards for his books as well as a distinguished career award from the American Sociological Association. During the past decade Thornton has devoted considerable time and energy studying developmental idealism and its influence in many areas of the world. His 2001 presidential address to the Population Association of America focused on this topic, as does his award-winning book entitled *Reading History Sideways: the Fallacy and Enduring Impact of the Developmental Paradigm on Family Life*. Of particular importance for Thornton's current work are the ways in which values, beliefs, and people have been and are being distributed around the world. His work (in collaboration with others) has involved conceptualization, measurement, and analysis of data from several countries, including Albania, Argentina, Bulgaria, China, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Malawi, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, the U.S., and Vietnam.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS 2

**Networks, Institutions, Attitudes and Behavior:
How Marriage and Fertility Change Can Occur****RONALD R. RINDFUSS**Carolina Population Center, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA
and Research Program, East-West Center, USAron_rindfuss@unc.edu

Massive changes in marital and fertility behavior have occurred in the West and are occurring in Asia. The details in these changes differ from country to country, but many countries have experienced increases in cohabitation, age at marriage, age at first birth, non-marital fertility and divorce as well as decreases in children ever born. There is some agreement on the broad macro factors involved, such as the massive increases in female educational attainment. Yet there has been relatively little theorizing on the micro-level mechanisms that enable such changes and the role that institutions play in facilitating or impeding these changes. This paper will discuss how social networks can enable such change when the conditions are ripe for change, as well as the facilitating or constraining role of institutions.

Ronald RINDFUSS is a Social Demographer whose work focuses on the timing and sequencing of cohabitation, marriage, childbearing, divorce, education, migration, and employment. In recent years, a focus has been on country-level institutional factors influence on fertility in developed countries. He is also working on the relationship between population processes and the environment. In collaboration with several CPC Fellows and researchers at the Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University, he is examining migration and social change in Thailand. Working with UNC and University of San Francisco de Quito researchers, he is examining the impact of population and tourism growth on the environment in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador. He is also examining causes and patterns of family change in Japan, in collaboration with colleagues at Keio University, the East-West Center and the University of Wisconsin. A past president of the Population Association of America and former director of CPC, he has been a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science since 1992.

Navigating Tradition and Modernity: Marriage Dilemmas of Emerging Adult Women in Contemporary India

SHAGUFA KAPADIA

Department of Human Development and Family Studies,
Faculty of Family and Community Sciences
The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, India

shagufa@gmail.com

The women's movement in the Indian society has had compelling influence in shaping public consciousness toward gender issues. The progress in women's status however has been uneven with the resilience of patriarchy reflected in the persistence of contrasting images of women and gender discrimination across life domains. Correspondingly the globalizing world is creating new opportunities and contexts which often run counter to time-honored cultural and gendered precepts and practices. Although educated middle class families in urban India are supportive and encouraging of the achievements of their daughters in areas of education and career, for domains of relationships and marriage they inevitably retreat into traditional cultural and gendered cocoons. For young women then opportunities that may challenge deep-rooted culturally prescribed gender norms related to marriage may not be easy to embrace. Educationally advantaged emerging adult women in India thus need to navigate two axes: one is the cultural landscape that fluctuates between continuity and discontinuity, and the second is the prevailing ambivalence about women's status wherein she is revered and oppressed at the same time. How do women negotiate the traditional cultural and gender precepts and practices related to marriage with new prospects? What contradictions do women face and what compromises and accommodations do they make in matters of marriage partner selection in particular? How does this impinge on their identity? These questions are addressed through a qualitative research with 25 emerging adult women in Baroda-India. A two-fold method of in-depth interviews followed by presentation of hypothetical vignettes was used to (i) elicit women's interpretations of the Indian culture, contemporary opportunities and aspirations, and the challenges therein, and (ii) reveal women's adherence to traditional family expectations or personal wishes in the domain of marriage. Results reveal the interplay between tradition and modernity in women's outlooks related to marriage and their identity development.

Shagufa KAPADIA is a Professor at the Department of Human Development and Family Studies and Director of the Women's Studies Research Center at the Faculty of Family and Community Sciences, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, India. Her primary research interest is in unraveling cross-cultural, particularly Asian cultural perspectives in adolescent and youth development, and socialization. She is involved in research on adolescence and emerging adulthood, women and gender issues, immigrant adjustment and acculturation, and morality. She is on the review and editorial boards of reputed journals such as *Psychological Studies* and *Culture and Psychology*. She has received prestigious awards and fellowships such as the Shastri Indo-Canadian Faculty Research Award (twice in 2006-07 and 2009-10) and the Fulbright Senior Research Fellowship (2003-04).

The “Feminine Mystique” Under Market Hegemony: Media’s Framing of Women’s Work-and-Family Issues in Contemporary China

SHENGWEI SUN

Maryland Population Research Center
University of Maryland, College Park, USA
ssun88@umd.edu

FEINIAN CHEN

Maryland Population Research Center
University of Maryland, College Park, USA
fchen1@umd.edu

This study examines the public discourse on the changing gender norms in contemporary China through analyzing mainstream media’s framing of women’s work-and-family-related issues. After waves of women’s liberation movements and the communist government’s active promotion of gender equality, the recent decade has witnessed a puzzling stagnation, if not decline, in women’s rights and status in China. This study posits that such “stalled gender revolution” results partially from the combination of resurgent patriarchal norms which associate women with the traditional private sphere and the neoliberal ideology emphasizing marketization and individual choice. Drawing on feminist critique of the gendered public/private divide, we examine the popular discourse on the changing gender norms in relation to women’s crossing between public and private spheres under the context of market reform. More specifically, we systematically examine mainstream media’s framing of women’s work-and-family issues through conducting both interpretative and quantitative content analyses on 202 articles drawn from 3 Chinese mainstream magazines between 1995 and 2012. Findings from this study provide empirical evidence to the claim of the recent resurgence of traditional gender values and reveal specific ways through which the dominant public discourse regulates and constructs gender norms.

Shengwei SUN is a Doctoral Student of Sociology and a Student Affiliate at the Maryland Population Research Center at the University of Maryland, USA. Her primary academic interest lies in social demography and the cultural construction of gender under different social contexts. Her current research examines the public discourse on the changing gender norms in contemporary China through analyzing mainstream media’s framing of women’s work-and-family issues. She is also engaged with a project exploring how low-income women in the U.S. draw on cultural schemas of motherhood to construct their maternal identities.

Feinian CHEN is Professor of Sociology and a faculty affiliate at the Maryland Population Research Center at the University of Maryland, USA. She received her PhD in Sociology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2001 and was trained in social demography at the Carolina Population Center. Her research crosscuts a range of areas in demography, family sociology, aging, and quantitative methodology. Her main research interests include women’s work and family, intergenerational relations, population aging and health, and simulation studies of structural equation models. Her work has been published in the *American Sociological Review*, *Social Forces*, *Demography*, *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, and *Sociological Methods and Research*. Currently she is actively involved in projects on the multidimensional pathways of aging for women in the Philippines and health implications of grandparenting in China and the USA.

Trapped between Traditional and Modern Roles: Single, Educated Women in Shanghai

YINGCHUN JI

Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

arijiy@nus.edu.sg

In the recent several years, China's single, educated women in big cities are castigated as "leftover" women if not yet getting married by late twenties. However, no solid evidence suggests that educated women are delaying or forgoing marriage, compared to equally educated men in China. This qualitative research intends to understand how these women view marriage and what constraints they have in their daily life from a micro level. Six themes emerge from the data analysis, parental pressure, gender double standard of aging, forced socioeconomic hypergamy, compatible family backgrounds, and independent women vs. woman behind the man. Women face tremendous social and familial pressure to get married and various discriminations on the marriage market. Yet, they maintain their economic and personality independence. The revitalization of the traditional Chinese values are the key to understand these women's constraints and struggles.

Yingchun Ji is a Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. Dr Ji obtained her PhD degree in the Sociology Department at UNC-CH and conducted post-doctoral research in School of Nursing at UNC-CH. Her research interests include social demography, family sociology, Asian family studies, marriage mismatch in China, health disparity and stratification; and her interested regions include China, Nepal and the United States. She is particularly interested in changes in the cultural context and economic foundation of family formation in China in the last several decades. Currently, she is focused on understanding the marriage mismatch in China, the so-called "leftover" women and the surplus men, by triangulating both qualitative and quantitative data. She is also interested in further investigating how this marriage mismatch is interwoven with the social stratification in the Chinese society.

The Changing Meaning of Marriage (and Family) in Taiwan

YU-HUA CHEN

Department of Bio-Industry Communication and Development
National Taiwan University

yuhuac@ntu.edu.tw

The traditional Chinese marriage system was a process of agreements and rituals rather than an event, and a family based decision rather than a personal choice. Due to these concerns, most parents arranged and directed marriages for their children and the idea that prospective mates should come from similar economic and social backgrounds has been maintained for decades. With the drastic transformation from an agrarian society to an industrial society after the World War II, several important but traditional family functions have been replaced by modern institutions in Taiwan. The rapid increase in educational attainment, more pre-marital non-familial employment and off-family living experiences of young people together change their relationships and interactions with parents and peers. Therefore, the young generation becomes more likely to involve in mate selection and to participate in marital decision. While previous studies have delineated major practices and changes in mate selection and family formation, there have very little documentation of the transformation in values, attitudes, and beliefs about marriage among Taiwanese. Using data from the Taiwan Social Change Survey collected in 2011, this paper aims to explain why attitudes toward marriage become more negative among younger cohorts.

Yu-Hua CHEN is an Associate Professor in the Department of Bio-Industry Communication and Development at the National Taiwan University. Her research and teaching specialties are social and family demography as well as sociological research methods. She is currently engaged in two research projects. The first project replicates and expands the VOC (value of children) study in the 1970s. It aims to examine the effect of transmission of VOC between generations and to explore the interplay of children-related values, childbearing intentions and reproductive behaviors across generations. The other project uses the dynamic household projection model to assess the sensitivity of future living arrangements in Taiwan to various demographic factors and to develop a range of scenarios for composition of the population by household age structure and size. Chen's recent publications have focused on changes in marriage timing and pattern, the fertility transition and policy response in Taiwan.

Trends in Attitudes Toward Marriage and Cohabitation in the Philippines

JEOFREY B. ABALOS

Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, Philippines

jfrybls@yahoo.com

Over the last two decades a new path to union formation has emerged in the Philippines. Specifically, the proportion of Filipinos who are legally married has consistently declined since 1990 but this decline was offset by the increasing proportion of those who are living together, particularly among the younger age groups. This paper investigates whether the increasing propensity of Filipinos to cohabit and their seeming reluctance to formally marry are also accompanied by more liberal attitudes toward marriage and cohabitation. I will also explore what are the factors influencing these attitudes, and how the salience of these factors has changed over the years. Data for this analysis come from the International Social Survey Program (ISSP) survey on "Family and Changing Gender Role" conducted in 1994, 2002 and 2012. The dependent variable is a scale constructed from three questions about marriage and cohabitation that are available in the three survey rounds: "To what extent do you agree or disagree 1) Married people are generally happier than unmarried people; 2) People who want children ought to get married; and 3) It is all right for a couple to live together without intending to get married". The responses ranged from 1 "strongly agree" to 5 "strongly disagree". The independent variables include age, sex, marital status, level of education, employment status and religiosity. OLS regression will be used to examine whether these factors significantly influence Filipino attitudes toward marriage and cohabitation.

Jeofrey B. ABALOS completed his Master in Population Studies from the University of the Philippines Population Institute (UPPI). He currently works as a Senior Labor and Employment Officer at the Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics (BLES).

How Do Never-married Women View Women's Place in the Family and Society? An Exploratory Study of Women in Bangkok, 1997 and 2012

JOO EAN TAN

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

jetan@ntu.edu.sg

In recent decades, Thailand has experienced rapid economic changes that have had far reaching social consequences. One social institution that has been significantly affected is marriage. Thailand has traditionally been a universal marriage society but this is no longer the case. Since the 1980s the age of first marriage, divorce rates, and the proportion of never-married have all showed substantial increases especially in the large urban areas. One group that has become a significant part of the urban social landscape is older never married women who are working in the modern economic sector in Bangkok.

This paper will examine the views of these never-married women on women's place in the family and society in order (1) to investigate the types of views these women hold, and (2) ascertain if there have been changes since the late 1990s. The views of these women who have not accepted the traditional norm of marriage will provide insights into the attitudes they hold. Qualitative interviews of never-married women in their forties and early fifties were conducted in 1997 and in 2012 in Bangkok. These women who are working in the modern economic sector were selected because they are economically independent so their choices and circumstances are not constrained by economic considerations. The continuity and change in the nature of the views of women's place in the family and society will help us understand the reasons for the decline in marriage and fertility.

JooEan TAN is Senior Lecturer in the Division of Sociology at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. Her research takes a comparative approach to studying social change in Southeast Asia focusing on the metropolitan cities of Bangkok and Jakarta. She is also working on the pedagogy related issues in higher education. She is currently involved in a project on the impact of the Reformasi movement on marriage and family in Indonesia.

Family Value and Marriage Behavior in Modern China

WEI-JUN JEAN YEUNG

Asia Research Institute, and Department of Sociology
National University of Singapore
ariywj@nus.edu.sg

HU SHU

Department of Sociology
National University of Singapore
a0068393@nus.edu.sg

We examine the extent to which values toward marriage and fertility relate to marriage behavior in modern China for different subgroups of population and what factors mediate this relationship. We will describe the continuity and change in family values over time and explore how partner searching behavior and marriage timing are influenced by family, institutional, and community contexts such as the sex ratio, unemployment rate, and housing price mediate the relationships between value and behavior. The analysis will be based on Chinese General Social Surveys and the 2005 1% Population Survey data.

Wei-Jun Jean YEUNG is a Professor at the Department of Sociology and the Cluster Leader in the Changing Family in Asia research cluster in Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore. She chairs the Family, Children, and Youth Research Cluster in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences in NUS. Professor Yeung is on the editorial boards of *Demography*, *Journal of Marriage and Family*, and *Journal of Family Issues*, and has served on numerous scientific review committees. Professor Yeung's current research includes various family demographic issues in Asia and in America. Her recent publications include edited special issues on *Asian Fatherhood*, *Transitioning to Adulthood in Asia*, and *Shifting Boundaries of Care in Asia* and a forthcoming volume on *Economic Stress and Families in Asia*.

HU Shu is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at the National University of Singapore. Her research interests include stratification and inequality, family, education, and social change. She has published on the topic of transition to adulthood in China. Her dissertation is on the well-being of China's left behind children.

Impacts of Life-stage Transitions on Women's Family-related Attitudes in Korea

ERIN HYE-WON KIM

Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy
National University of Singapore
sppkhw@nus.edu.sg

ADAM KA-LOK CHEUNG

Asia Research Institute
National University of Singapore
arickl@nus.edu.sg

Family-related attitudes are some key correlates of various family processes and outcomes, including family formation and dissolution, division of household labor, and parenting. Researchers often argue that these attitudes per se determine our behaviors. Despite the important theoretical and policy implications, systematic knowledge about the attitudes is little. Although past research has paid extensive attention to the trend of liberalizing family attitudes by cohorts, intra-cohort change of these attitudes are seldom examined. The lack of understanding is in part due to lack of longitudinal data at the individual level. In fact, little is known about how stable individuals' attitudes are over time.

Family formation and dissolution, childbirth, school-to-work transition, unemployment and retirement are important life-stage events that most people would experience during their life-time. These life-stage transitions may change what people experience, how they define themselves, and whom they interact with. A few studies, mostly in the West, suggest that gender role attitudes are affected by some of these life-stage transitions. More research, especially in the Asian context, is needed on whether and how family attitudes change over time with experiencing these life-stage events.

With panel data from South Korea, this study fills these gaps in literature. We investigate the stability and change of women's family-related attitudes over time. In particular, we examine the impacts of life-stage transitions on these attitudes. Data for this study are from the *Korean Longitudinal Survey of Women and Families* (KLoWF). KLoWF is a nationally representative longitudinal survey. About 10,000 women, aged 19-64, were interviewed in the baseline survey in 2007, and followed up in 2008, 2010, and 2012. We analyze family-related attitudes surveyed repeatedly in later three waves. Multiple-item scales are constructed to measure family-related attitudes. Preliminary analysis shows that attitudes are stable but changing over the four-year period. Results of fixed-effect/growth-curve models that examine the impacts of life-stage transition on these attitudes will be presented in the paper.

Erin Hye-Won KIM is an Assistant Professor in the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore. Before joining the NUS faculty in 2012, she earned her master's and doctoral degrees in Public Policy from Duke University, USA. Kim's research examines the relationships among social policy, individual and family behaviors, and people's well-being, particularly in the context of population aging. Her current projects focus on quantitative analysis of old-age pensions, intergenerational support, low fertility, and subjective well-being in Korea, Singapore, and Thailand.

Adam Ka-Lok CHEUNG is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. His research interests include gender and family ideology, family structure, division of household labor, and marital conflict and violence. His research has been published or accepted for publications by international refereed journals such as the *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Violence Against Women* and *Violence and Victims*, and in other edited books.

Transition from Son Preference to Daughter Preference in Korea?

KI-SOO EUN

Graduate School of International Studies
Seoul National University, South Korea

eunkisoo@snu.ac.kr

The effect of gender preference for children is more conspicuous under low fertility regime. Severely distorted sex ratio at birth in India and China clearly shows how destructive influence the strong son preference can have over the society under declining fertility regime.

Gender preference for children, however, is still very diverse all over the country. It is so diverse even in Asian context. When we focus on gender preference for children in Northeast Asian context, it is well understood that traditionally strong son preference in Korea, Japan and Taiwan has consistently declined in contemporary period. Some prior research argues that neutral gender values and attitudes are dominant in Taiwan, and daughter preference has gradually become prevalent in Japan. It is also reported that strong son preference in Korea has been weakened because of successful modernization in the state and family and government's effective policy. At the individual level, expansion of educational opportunity for women and women's increasing participation to the labor force have been known to contribute to decrease of son preference in East Asian Countries, especially in Taiwan.

However, it is unclear which kind of gender preference has replaced son preference in Korea. I argue that daughter preference has consistently gained popularity as a major gender preference for children in 21st century Korean society. Then, I try to explain why daughter preference has become dominant in Korean society which still seems to be under the great influence of Confucianism in marriage and family. The explanation may be sought not only at the individual level but in relation to rapid social change since the Asian economic crisis in 1997.

Ki-Soo EUN, Associate Professor of Sociology and Korean Studies, teaches at Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University in Korea. His main research interests lie in gender, family, and population. He has published on changing family values in Asian societies, declining fertility and family change, and changing life courses. He is involved in time-use research on work-life balance with Oxford scholars. He is a principal investigator of Comparative Asian Family Survey project where Japanese, Taiwanese, Thai, Vietnamese, Indian, and Malaysian family scholars are collaborating. He is also collaborating with Emiko Ochiai at Kyoto University in Japan for the Asian Heritage Project which aims to collect articles on Asian families written in local language and publish them as volumes in English.

Islam, State and Patriarchal Dividends: A Study of the Family Support Division of the Syariah Judicial Department of Malaysia

MAZNAH MOHAMAD

Department of Malay Studies, and Southeast Asian Studies,
National University of Singapore

mlsmm@nus.edu.sg

The foundation of family law such as that provided under Syariah (Islamic law) is based on the responsibility and entitlement of males to head their households. Often times this possibility is negated by a social reality in which some males are unable to provide, materially, for their families. As Mir-Hosseini (1993) has affirmed through her studies of Muslim societies in Iran and Morocco, no legal system, no matter how divine, can ensure that men perform the responsibility that accompanies their authority when they are, “out of work and incapable of providing his own maintenance”. Today in many Muslim countries the inflexible nature of Islamic gender divide suffers from an ability to reconcile religious dogma with socio-economic reality. I examine this phenomenon by studying the non-enforcement of courts’ orders for maintenance payment among poor Muslim families in Malaysia. The accumulated cases of family neglect have led to the establishment of a well-funded Family Support Division within the Syariah Judicial Department. On the surface this is a laudable effort on the part of the national state to support single mothers who have been denied maintenance payments from their ex-spouses. But delving deeply into its implication, the costs of a failed Muslim masculinity are seemingly being defrayed by an increasingly ‘Islamized’ national state, as errant males are tolerated for their breach of responsibility, or more specifically, their contempt of court orders. The modern Sharia is imbued with an implicit code of hegemonic masculinity resulting in the accruing of a ‘patriarchal dividend’ for those within its ambit. The functions and operations of the Family Support Division within the Syariah Judiciary are integral to this process, constructing and consolidating the notion of the modern Islamic family. Under such circumstances the paper will explore some of the marital and fertility trends among Muslim families.

Maznah Mohamad is Associate Professor with the Department of Malay Studies and Southeast Asian Studies at the National University of Singapore. She specializes in gender and ethnic studies with regional emphases on Malaysia and Islamic Southeast Asia. Her published books include, *The Malay Handloom Weavers* (1996), *Feminism and the Women’s Movement in Malaysia* (co-authored, 2006), *Muslim-non-Muslim Marriage: Political and Cultural Contestations in Southeast Asia* (co-edited, 2009), *Melayu: The Politics, Poetics and Paradoxes of Malayness* (co-edited, 2011), *Changing Marriage Patterns in Southeast Asia: Economic and Socio-Cultural Dimension* (co-edited 2011) and *Family Ambiguity and Domestic Violence in Asia: Concept, Law and Process* (co-edited 2013).

Single and the City: State Influences on the Intimate Relationships of Young, Well-educated, Single Women in Singapore

KARLIEN STRIJBOSCH

Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences
Utrecht University, The Netherlands

strijboschkarlien@gmail.com

The city-state Singapore faces the challenge of coping with demographic pressures caused by a low fertility rate and an aging population. Singles are encouraged by the Singaporean state to marry and have children, preferably with another local or permanent resident. This is considered important to ensure that Singapore can continue to compete on the global market. This form of governmentality directed at singles reflects in organized events for singles and the implemented housing policy. The present ethnographic study examines how young well-educated single women view marriage, singleness, romantic love and dating, and how they experience government interference. Ethnographic fieldwork was conducted from August to December 2012. Getting married is expected, not only by the state and family members, but also by friends and singles themselves. The idea that the government interferes with dating life, however, is ridiculed at the same time. This interference contrasts normative ideas of spontaneous romantic love and the interviewed singles do not believe they will find a suitable partner at organized events. Nevertheless, housing policy and the idea of compulsory coupledness does encourage singles to get married. Marriage is regarded important but singles mainly want to decide for themselves who their partner will be. The state, ethnicity, religion, ideas about romantic love, family and friends are significant factors in choosing a partner. This paper shows how these factors intertwine and sometimes contradict the intentions of the Singaporean state.

Karlién STRIJBOSCH is a Cultural Anthropologist who completed her master studies at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands. Karlién has obtained her BA from University College in Maastricht in 2010 where she followed an interdisciplinary program in globalization studies, sociology and anthropology. She truly discovered her passion for qualitative research and cultural anthropology when she studied a semester abroad at Waikato University in New Zealand. Because of her study results she was rewarded with membership of the Golden Key International Honours society. Connecting different levels such as the global, local and the personal, she is interested in the interplay between state inference and intimate relations. As a part of her master program she became a Visiting Scholar at the Asia Research Institute in Singapore. During her fieldwork in Singapore she mainly interviewed young, well-educated single Singaporean women and conducted participant observation from August to December 2012.

The Effects of Religion on Fertility-related Attitudes in Japan, South Korea and Singapore

HIROSHI KOJIMA

Faculty of Social Sciences
Waseda University, Japan

kojima@waseda.jp

While Kojima (2006, 2011) found the significant effects of religion on attitudes toward children and family policy in East Asia, Lesthaeghe (2011) found that religion-related variables have opposite effects on delayed childbearing in Japan compared with those in South Korea and Singapore.

This study presents the results of a comparative analysis of religion's effects on fertility-related attitudes in the three societies, drawing on microdata from the 2009 Survey on Comparative Study of Family Policies in East Asia (South Korea, Singapore and Japan), which was conducted by the Section for Measures against Declining Birthrate, Director-General for Policies on Cohesive Society, Cabinet Office (Japanese Government). The effects of religion on agreeing to the 13 statements about children have been analyzed.

The results of binomial logit models, after controlling for age, marital status and education, show that the same religion does not always have the same effects in the three societies. The effect of Buddhism on agreeing to "It is natural to have children" is positive among Japanese and Korean women but negative among Singaporean women. The effect of Buddhism on agreeing to "I want to have children with the person I love" is negative among Japanese women but positive among Singaporean women. The effect of Catholicism on agreeing to "Children help to improve the relationship with my spouse" is positive among Korean men but negative among Singaporean men.

The effect of the same religion is not in the same direction among both sexes in Japan: The effect of Buddhism on agree to "Having children will enrich my life and make it more enjoyable" is positive among Japanese men but negative among Japanese women. The effects tend to be in the same direction among both sexes in the other two societies.

Hiroshi KOJIMA is Professor of Population, Migration and Family Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan. He is also Director, Institute for Asian Muslim Studies, Waseda University. He obtained his PhD in sociology/demography at Brown University, USA after having received his BA (economics), MA (sociology) and Doctoral candidacy (economics) at Waseda University. He was the Head of Department of Population Policy Studies at the Institute of Population Problems and the Head of Department of International Research and Cooperation at the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research before moving to Waseda University in 2007. His specialization includes comparative demography, population policy, migration and family demography. His co-edited Japanese books includes *Historical Demography and Family History* (Waseda University Press, 2009), *Demo-metric Analysis of Microdata* (Hara Shobo, 2012) and *Population and Religion in the World* (Hara Shobo, 2013).

Convergence of Marriage Systems in Asia?

GAVIN W. JONES

J Y Pillay Comparative Asia Research Centre
NUS Global Asia Institute, Singapore

gaigwj@nus.edu.sg

Asian countries have been witnessing significant social, economic and technological changes over recent decades, albeit from widely differing starting points. But while similar forces continue to shape changes in Asian societies, sharp differences in marriage patterns and systems persist throughout the region. And while almost everywhere, marriage has been taking place at older ages than previously, the patterns have recently grown more complex, and as Cherlin (2012) has noted, the model of an inexorable trend toward ever-later marriage no longer fits the situation of all countries. This paper will draw on census and survey data over recent decades in considering whether the striking differences in marriage patterns in different broad regions of Asia, and indeed within these regions, are tending to be maintained or to narrow as economic, social and ideational changes affect all countries. The paper will focus in particular on trends in Indonesia, where age at marriage has been declining in recent years despite rising levels of education, urbanization and economic wellbeing, thus raising issues about factors influencing these trends.

Gavin W. JONES is Director of J Y Pillay Comparative Asia Research Centre (JYP CARC) at NUS Global Asia Institute, Singapore. He has followed a career combining academic research with advisory roles in the areas of population and development. He was then with the Demography and Sociology Program at the Australian National University for 28 years, serving as head of program for an eight-year period. In 2003 he joined the National University of Singapore (NUS) as Professor in the Asia Research Institute and Research Leader of the cluster on the Changing Family in Asia, with a joint appointment in the Department of Sociology. Prof Jones has conducted joint research with many colleagues in Asia, on subjects as varied as the economic crisis in South-East Asia, marriage and divorce in Malaysia and Indonesia, population and development in Eastern Indonesia, the dynamics of population and employment change in mega-urban regions of East and Southeast Asia, and education and human development. He also has a long-standing interest in the formulation and evolution of population policy in the region. His research interest in recent years has focused especially on very low fertility regimes in Asia, delayed marriage, non-marriage, and cross-boundary marriage, urbanization issues, and equity aspects of educational development. He has served as consultant to many international agencies, including the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank Institute, the Ford Foundation and the Australian Development Assistance Bureau. He has published about 25 books and monographs and some 150 internationally refereed journal articles and book chapters.

Enduring Marriages in India: Implications on Fertility and Gender

BAISHALI GOSWAMI

Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), India
gbaishali@gmail.com

K S JAMES

Population Research Centre
Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), India
james@isec.ac.in

Arguably the marriage system in India continues to remain rigid even with drastic changes in the fertility pattern. Many states particularly in the Sothern part of the country have achieved below replacement level fertility with simultaneous progress in the educational front of woman. These states have also shown a tendency towards a fertility level far below replacement level as observed from other countries of the world during the course of demographic transition. However, its effect on the marriage pattern and marriage system remains nearly unknown. More importantly the implications for such changes on fertility and gender relations necessitate careful analysis and investigation. It is generally considered that the Indian fertility transition is typically family planning oriented than due to changes in the marriage pattern. This paper examines the marriage and child bearing patterns in India in the era of declining fertility keeping Second Demographic Transition at the backdrop. Moreover, it also brings out implications of demographic transition and changes in marriage pattern on the gender relations and future marriage system in the country. The paper explores in detail large scale survey data from Demographic Health Surveys in India for the period 1992-93 to 2005-06. Findings reveal that, the proportion single among females as well as postponement of first birth are increasing. However, there is no significant change in the divorce rates which implies that marriage and family as institutions continue to remain rigid in the Indian society. Nevertheless, as evident from many other Asian countries, persistence of traditional gender roles leading to a contradictory social status of women in the society is explaining their attitude towards marriage and motherhood in India as well. Given the strong family oriented value system in India, the country may take longer time to complete SDT or it may take altogether a difference route in demographic transition suiting to its socio-cultural context.

K S James is Professor and Head of the Population Research Centre, Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), in Bangalore, India. He has worked extensively on demographic changes with focus on population and development and ageing issues. He has published widely on demographic transition and demographic dividend in India and his paper on the implications of demographic changes in India was published in Science in November 2011. He has been a visiting fellow at the Harvard Centre for Population and Development, Harvard University, USA; International Institute for Applied System Analysis (IIASA), Austria; London School of Economics, UK; and French National Institute of Demographic Studies (INED), Paris.

ABOUT THE CHAIRPERSONS

Bussarawan “Puk” TEERAWICHITCHAINAN is Della Suantio Fellow and Assistant Professor of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University (SMU). She is also affiliated with the Center for Silver Security at Sim Kee Boon Institute for Financial Economics, SMU and with the Changing Family in Asia Cluster, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. Her research interests include social demography, the life course and aging, population health, inequality, and sociology of family. She conducts research on these topics in the context of Southeast Asia. She received a PhD and MA from the University of Washington, Seattle, USA and a BA (First-Class Honors) from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand.

Juyeon KIM is Assistant Professor at the Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore. She received her PhD degree in Sociology from the University of Chicago, USA, in 2011 and was a post doctoral fellow at the Department of Sociology and the Center on Aging at National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago. Her research centers on the study of health and aging in the contexts of social networks and family. The purpose of her research is to elucidating the dynamic interrelationships among family structure, social networks, and health, and their association with social resources, psychological states and physiological functioning during the aging process. Ultimately, her goal is to enhance the understanding of how interactions between social contexts and individuals’ adaptive strategies take variant pathways, resulting in inequality.

Hong XIAO is Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of Master of Arts in Contemporary China at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. She received her BA and MA in English from Peking University, China, and her MA and PhD in Sociology from University of Connecticut at Storrs, Connecticut in the United States. Prior to joining NTU, she was Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology at Central Washington University (1999-2010). She has held academic appointments and visiting faculty positions at Peking University, Knox College, Monmouth College, and Hong Kong Baptist University. She has also experience working as an applied sociologist in survey research, program evaluation, and job training management. Xiao is the author of *Childrearing Values in the United States and China: A Comparison of Belief Systems and Social Structure* (Praeger 2001) and has published on topics such as social class and values, culture and values, gender, domestic violence, overseas Chinese identity, human rights policy, and awareness of water crisis in China. Her writings have appeared in *Chinese Studies*, *Gender & Society*, *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*, *Journal of Human Values*, and *Sociological Perspective*, among others. One of her current research projects focuses on social capital and individualization process in shaping aspirations for children in urban China.

Premchand DOMMARAJU is Assistant Professor in the Division of Sociology at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. His main research interest is in social demographic issues (marriage, divorce, family, fertility, ageing and mortality) with a geographical focus on Asia. His publications have appeared in *Population*, *Population Studies*, *Population Research and Policy Review* and *Journal of Population Research*. He is currently the associate editor of the journal *Asian Population Studies*.

Shirley Hsiao-Li SUN is a PhD (Sociology) from New York University, USA, and the author of the book "Population Policy and Reproduction in Singapore: Making Future Citizens" (2012, London and New York: Routledge). She has successfully completed two research projects and has several articles in the SSCI-indexed and/or international peer-reviewed top journals, for example, *Citizenship Studies*, *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*, *Social & Public Policy Review*, *New Global Studies*, *Media Asia*, *Journal of Workplace Rights*, *Journal of Comparative Research in Anthropology and Sociology*, *Childhood*, and *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*. She is also a contributor to two edited books, *Contemporary Grandparenting: Changing Family Relationships in Global Context*, (Bristol, UK: The Policy Press; in press) and *Social Subsumption and Exclusion in East Asia* (South Korea: Yonsei University Press). Currently she is Associate Professor at the Division of Sociology, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.