

Dr Theodora LAM

Education

- Doctor of Philosophy (Geography), National University of Singapore
 - Master of Social Sciences, National University of Singapore
 - Bachelor of Arts (Hons), National University of Singapore
 - Bachelor of Social Sciences, University of Waikato, New Zealand
 - Diploma in Education (Credit), National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University
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Professional Experience

2022 - PRESENT

Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

2019 - 2022

Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

Research Area/Topic/Discipline

- Transnational migrants and their families in home countries
 - Skilled and low-waged labour migration
 - Children and young people's geography
 - Marriage and care migration, and social reproduction of transnational families
 - Migration of Singaporeans
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Short Biography

Theodora Lam is Senior Research Fellow in Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore (NUS). Her research interests cover transnational migration and families, the web of care within transnational households, geographies of children and young people, and gender studies. She has researched on both skilled and low-waged labour migrants as well as their families in Singapore and other Asian countries. Theodora has published on various themes relating to migration, citizenship and education, and co-edited several special journal issues and books.

Selected Publications

Book

- Yeoh, B.S.A., K. Wee and T. Lam (2022) *Migrant Workers in Singapore: Lives and Labour in a Transient Migration Regime*. Singapore: World Scientific. <https://doi.org/10.1142/12798>.

Refereed Articles

- Yeoh, B.S.A., T. Lam, B.C. Somaiah and K.F. Acedera (2023) The critical temporalities of serial migration and family social reproduction in Southeast Asia. *Time & Society*, online first, doi: 10.1177/0961463X231164473.
- Wee, K., T. Lam, D. Spitzer and B.S.A. Yeoh (2023) Love's Labour's Cost? Gendered Migration and Intimate Labour in Asia. *Gender, Place and Culture*, 30 (5): 609-618, doi: 10.1080/0966369X.2023.2179025.
- Yeoh, B.S.A. and T. Lam (2022) Managing the non-integration of transient migrant workers: Urban strategies of enclavisation and enclosure in Singapore. *Urban Studies*, 59 (16): 3292-3311, doi: 10.1177/004209802211143.
- Spitzer, D., T. Lam, K. Wee and B.S.A. Yeoh (2022) Close Encounters: Migrant Bodies, Workplace, and Intimate Labour in Asia. *Gender, Work, and Organization*, 29 (3): 897-905, doi: 10.1111/gwao.12837.
- Yeoh, B.S.A., H.L. Chee, R. Anant and T. Lam (2021) Transnational Marriage Migration and the Negotiation of Precarious Pathways Beyond Partial Citizenship in Singapore. *Citizenship Studies*, 25 (7): 898-917, doi: 10.1080/13621025.2021.1968681.
- Yeoh, B.S.A., B.C. Somaiah, T. Lam and K.F. Acedera (2020) Doing Family in "Times of Migration": Care Temporalities and Gender Politics in Southeast Asia. *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*, 110 (6): 1709-1725, doi: 10.1080/24694452.2020.1723397.
- Lam, T. and B.S.A. Yeoh (2019) Parental Migration and Disruptions in Everyday Life: Reactions of Left-behind Children in Southeast Asia. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 45 (16): 3085-3104, doi: 10.1080/1369183X.2018.1547022.
- Lam, T. and B.S.A. Yeoh (2019) Under One Roof? Left-behind Children's Perspectives in Negotiating Relationships with Absent and Return-Migrant Parents. *Population, Space and Place*, 25 (3), doi: 10.1002/psp.2151.
- Lam, T. and B.S.A. Yeoh (2018) Migrant Mothers, Left-behind Fathers: The Negotiation of Gender Subjectivities in Indonesia and the Philippines. *Gender, Place and Culture*, 25 (1): 104-117, doi: 10.1080/0966369X.2016.1249349.
- Yeoh, B.S.A. and T. Lam (2016) Immigration and its (Dis)Contents: The Challenges of Highly Skilled Migration in Globalising Singapore. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 60(5-6): 637-658, doi: 10.1177/0002764216632831.
- Lam, T., M. Ee, L.A. Hoang and B.S.A. Yeoh (2013) Securing a Better Living Environment for Left-behind Children: Implications and Challenges for Policies. *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, 22 (3): 421-445.
- Lam, T., Yeoh, B.S.A. and Huang, S. (2006) 'Global Householding' in a City-State: Emerging Trends in Singapore. *International Development Planning Review*, 28(4), 475-497.
- Lam, T. and Yeoh, B. (2004) Negotiating 'Home' and 'National Identity: Chinese-Malaysian Transmigrants in Singapore. *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*, 45(2): 141-164.
- Lam, T., Yeoh, B. and Law, L. (2002) Sustaining Families Transnationally: Chinese-Malaysians in Singapore. *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, 11(1): 117-143.

Edited Journal Special Issues

- Wee, K., Lam, T., Spitzer, D. and Yeoh, B.S.A. (eds) (2023) [Love's labour's cost? Gendered migration and intimate labour in Asia](#). *Gender, Place & Culture*, 30 (5).
- Spitzer, D., Lam, T., Wee, K. and Yeoh, B.S.A. (eds) (2022) [Close encounters: Migrant bodies, workplace, and intimate labor in Asia](#). *Gender, Work & Organization*, 29 (3).

Book Chapters

- Lam, T. (2023) Growing over time: Left-behind children in the past three decades. In *Handbook of Migration and the Family*, edited by J.L. Waters and B.S.A. Yeoh, pp. 333-348. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- Wee, K., T. Lam and B.S.A. Yeoh (2022) Migrant Construction Workers in Singapore: An Introduction. In *Migrant Workers in Singapore: Lives and Labour in a Transient Migration Regime*, edited by Yeoh, B.S.A., K. Wee and T. Lam. Singapore: World Scientific.
- Yeoh, B.S.A., T. Lam and S. Huang (2022) Transnational Families in an Age of Migration: The View from Asia. In *Handbook on Transnationalism*, edited by B.S.A. Yeoh and F. Collins, pp. 182-197. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Lam, T. (2019) Young Women and Girls Left Behind: Causes and Consequences. In *Supporting Brighter Futures: Young Women and Girls and Labour Migration in South-east Asia and the Pacific*, edited by IOM, pp. 11-28. Geneva: IOM.
- Lam, T., S. Huang, B.S.A. Yeoh and J. Celero (2018) Growing Up in Transnational Families: Children's Experiences and Perspectives. In *Routledge Handbook of Asian Migrations*, edited by G. Liu- Farrer and B.S.A. Yeoh, pp. 250-263. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Lam, T. and B.S.A. Yeoh (2014) Long-distance Fathers, Left-behind Fathers and Returnee Fathers: Changing Fathering Practices in Indonesia and the Philippines. In *Globalized fatherhoods: Emergent forms and possibilities in the new millennium*, edited by M. Inhorn, W. Chavkin, J.A. Navarro, pp. 103-128. New York: Berghahn.
- Lam, T. and Yeoh, B.S.A. (2011) Educating the Extraterritorial Singaporean: Constructing a Singaporean Identity Overseas. In *Hyphenated Selves: Construction, Negotiation and Mediation of Immigrant Identity within schools: Transnational experiences*, edited by S. Vandeyar, pp. 73-106. Netherlands: Rozenberg and Unisa.

Other Publications

- Lam, T. (2014) Supporting children of migrant parents in South-East Asia. *Caritas in Asia*. Vatican City: Caritas Internationalis. Available from: <https://www.caritas.org/2014/07/supporting-children-migrant-parents-south-east-asia/>.

Awards and Distinctions

- Writing Fellowship, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity
- NUS Research Scholarship

Recent Grants

- *A Study on Cross-National Families in Singapore* awarded by DSO National Laboratories from 1 May 2022 to 30 April 2024 (Co-Principal Investigator).
- *South-South Migration and Migrant Food Insecurity: Interactions, Impacts and Remedies (MiFood Project)* awarded by Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council [SSHRC] Partnership Grant, Canada from 2022-2029 (Collaborator).
- *Healthcare and 'Foodwork' among Foreign Domestic Workers and their Children [HealthFood]* awarded by NUS Initiative to Improve Health in Asia [NIHA], Global Asia Institute, Singapore from 31 August 2020 to 30 August 2022 (Co-Principal Investigator).