



9-10 JANUARY 2020

TRANSNATIONAL RELATIONS, AGEING AND CARE: ASIAN CONNECTIONS AND BEYOND

ARI
ASIA RESEARCH INSTITUTE
National University of Singapore

AS8 Building
Seminar Room Level 4 Room 4
10 Kent Ridge Crescent, S119260

Transnational ageing is a relatively understudied topic compared to the academic attention that has been given to other aspects of transnational familyhood. Increasingly, older adults are moving across national borders to provide care or to receive care, while also participating in such care circulations are younger transnational migrants who are family members of those older adults or who have been employed to care for older adults. The experiences of older migrants and their care relations with familial and non-familial persons remain under-researched, but the way they journey between sending/receiving societal contexts, maintaining care relations transnationally, is deserving of academic and policy attention. The journeys they make bring about changes to the notions and practices of ageing at the individual, household, community and national levels. This workshop invites researchers to contribute interdisciplinary insights on how ageing is experienced across national borders, namely to do with:

- the multi-directionality of care (e.g. caring for/caring by older people) across borders,
- the array of human and non-human actors/actants involved in caring across borders (e.g. care relations and digital technologies),
- advancing grounded theorisation of what ageing across borders means in changing Asia (e.g. the cultural meanings attached to such social processes, the transnational social protections extended to or withheld from those who age across borders), and
- eliciting connections and comparisons on ageing and migration across Asian sites and beyond

This workshop aims to extend conceptualisation of how ageing, migration and transnationalism mutually constitute one another, with reference to both older and younger migrants as well as the role of non-human actants (e.g. digital technologies). While the workshop gives primary focus to how the above trends manifest in Asia, it also seeks to contribute to wider theorization beyond Asian cases.

CONVENORS

ASSOC PROF ELAINE HO LYNN-EE

Asia Research Institute, and Department of Geography, National University of Singapore

ASSOC PROF SHIRLENA HUANG

Department of Geography, National University of Singapore

ASSOC PROF LENG LENG THANG

Department of Japanese Studies, National University of Singapore

PROFESSOR BRENDA YEOH

Asia Research Institute, and Department of Geography, National University of Singapore

THURSDAY, 9 JANUARY 2020

10:00 – 10:15 REGISTRATION

10:15 – 10:30 WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

BRENDA YEOH | National University of Singapore

ELAINE HO LYNN-EE | National University of Singapore

10:30 – 11:30 KEYNOTE ADDRESS 1

CHAIRPERSON **LENG LENG THANG** | National University of Singapore

10:30 Digital Kinning: Theorising Digital Technologies and the Multi-Directionality of Care in the Context of Ageing and Migration

LORETTA BALDASSAR | The University of Western Australia

11:10 Question & Answer

11:30 – 12:00 MORNING TEA

12:00 – 13:30 PANEL 1 | NEGOTIATING AGEING “IN-PLACE” AND “ACROSS BORDERS”

CHAIRPERSON **WEN-CHING TING** | National University of Singapore

12:00 Shared Spaces and ‘Thowntogetherness’: Older Singaporeans and PRC Grandparenting Migrants in Jurong, Singapore

ELAINE LYNN-EE HO | National University of Singapore

12:20 ‘Ageing in Transnational Place’ for Korean Older People in Singapore

TAE-YOUNG YUN | Inha University

12:40 Transnational Aging and Approaches to End-of-Life Practices for Asian Migrants in Australia

HELEN FORBES-MEWETT | Monash Migration and Inclusion Centre, Monash University

13:00 Question & Answer

13:30 – 14:30 LUNCH

14:30 – 16:00 PANEL 2 | CARING ACROSS BORDERS AND STRATEGIES OF/FOR AGEING FAMILY MEMBERS

CHAIRPERSON **SYLVIA ANG** | National University of Singapore

14:30 Transnational Ageing and Critical Caring Strategies among Intergenerational Filipino Migrant and Non-Migrant Networks

CONELY DE LEON | Ryerson University

14:50 Doing Transnational Care: Migrant Care Workers and Their Left-Behind Aged Parents

LI-FANG LIANG | National Dong-Hwa University

15:10 Care Circulations between Singapore and Myanmar: Balancing Eldercare Work Abroad with Care for Ageing Parents Back Home

WEN-CHING TING | National University of Singapore

15:30 Question & Answer

16:00 – 16:30 AFTERNOON TEA

16:30 – 18:00 PANEL 3 | OLDER MIGRANTS AND AGENTIC PATHWAYS IN TRANSNATIONAL CONTEXTS

CHAIRPERSON **SHIORI SHAKUTO** | National University of Singapore

16:30 Older Migrants as Carers: Chinese and Japanese Retirees in Southeast Asia
VIA SKYPE **MIKA TOYOTA** | Rikkyo University
BIAO XIANG | University of Oxford

16:50 Temporariness and Post-Migration Adaptation: A Comparative Study on Mainland Chinese Grandparenting Migrants in Singapore and Australia
JENNY TUEN YI CHIU | Lingnan University

17:10 Shared Patterns and Divergent Trajectories—Theorizing Contemporary Senior Migrants' Global Lifeways
NICOLE NEWENDORP | Harvard University

17:30 Question & Answer

18:00 END OF DAY ONE

FRIDAY, 10 JANUARY 2020

9:45 – 10:00 REGISTRATION

10:00 – 11:00 KEYNOTE ADDRESS 2

CHAIRPERSON **SHIRLENA HUANG** | National University of Singapore

10:00 Relational Comparison and Communities of Care across the Global South and North
GERALDINE PRATT | University of British Columbia

10:40 Question & Answer

11:00 – 11:30 MORNING TEA

11:30 – 13:00 PANEL 4 | AGEING AND TRANSNATIONAL FUTURES

CHAIRPERSON **BITTIANDRA CHAND SOMAIAH** | National University of Singapore

11:30 The Temporal Borders of Transnational Belonging: Ageing Migrant Domestic Workers in Singapore
MEGHA AMRITH | Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity

11:50 Curtailed Dreams and Forced Transnationalism: The Effects of Migration Regimes on Lived Experiences of Older Filipino Migrants in Australia
CHARMAINE LIM | The University of Western Australia

12:10 From Lifestyle Aspirations to Care Aspirations: Sri Lankan-British Retirement Migrants' Transnational Care Negotiations during Frailty
MENUSHA DE SILVA | Independent Researcher

12:30 Question & Answer

13:00 – 14:00 LUNCH

14:00 – 15:00 PANEL 5 | TRANSNATIONAL CARE AND INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONS IN LATER AGE

CHAIRPERSON **JENNY TUEN YI CHIU** | Lingnan University

14:00 Middle-Class Transnational Caregiving: Unmarried Ageing Migrants Compelled to Return
SYLVIA ANG | National University of Singapore
LENG LENG THANG | National University of Singapore

14:20 Negotiating Ageing and Intergenerational Relationships: Older Filipino Women Migrants in Malaysia
JOHANNA O. ZULUETA | Soka University

14:40 Question & Answer

15:00 – 15:30 AFTERNOON TEA

15:30 – 16:30 PANEL 6 | REARTICULATING AGEING AND CARE EXPECTATIONS IN TRANSNATIONAL SETTINGS

CHAIRPERSON **MENUSHA DE SILVA** | Independent Researcher

15:30 **When Care Travels: Spatial Reorganisation of Elder Care in a Transnational Setting**

SREERUPA | Centre for Women's Development Studies, King's College London

15:50 **Who Cares? Older Singaporeans Negotiating Care Expectations**

SHIRLENA SWEE LIAN HUANG | National University of Singapore

BRENDA S.A. YEOH | National University of Singapore

LIEW JIAN AN | National University of Singapore

16:10 **Question & Answer**

16:30 – 17:00 CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS & REMARKS

17:00 **END OF WORKSHOP**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS 1

Digital Kinning: Theorising Digital Technologies and the Multi-Directionality of Care in the Context of Ageing and Migration

Loretta BALDASSAR

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Anthropology and Sociology,
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Ageing and migration are arguably two of the most important contemporary sociodemographic trends and yet, investigations of their intersections remain infrequent, with limited analysis of how mobility and migration have affected the experience of ageing, and vice versa. Older adults' support networks are often reduced due to the mobility of their family and friends, and, at the same time, many embark on their own mobility trajectories, often to give and/or receive care. We know from the transnational families literature that the use of digital technologies play an important role in facilitating the circulation of care across the resultant transnational support networks. However, older adults often experience significant challenges to their inclusion in these networks, in terms of both digital access and literacy.

This paper reports on findings from Loretta Baldassar and Raelene Wilding's current Australia Research Council project, *Ageing and New Media*, which examines the role of distant social support networks in the wellbeing of older adults in Australia, 37% of whom are overseas-born (ABS, 2017). The first part of the paper explores the way today's polymedia environments have created the conditions for synchronous, continuous, multisensory co-presence across distance that challenge the normative and ontological privileging of proximity in care and kinship relationships. Such conditions require us to consider the importance of human relations to the material world, of both technologies and nonhuman actants, and their role in mediating care exchange. We propose the notion of 'digital kinning' as a way to theorise the resultant human-technology interactions, and to explore how the rapidly changing polymedia environment is transforming how older adults communicate, imagine themselves, and organise their everyday lives. The concept of kinning (Howell 2013) highlights the processes of *becoming* kin, not on the basis of biological ties, but on the basis of what is done, performed and exchanged. For older people, these digital kinning practices often require facilitation by others, emphasising their social relational, intergenerational and performative character.

The second part of the paper examines the role of digital technologies in maintaining the support networks and identities of older adults, especially migrants, living in residential care institutions in Australia. We highlight the benefits of 'digital kinning' for older migrants in aged care including to support their access to essential sources of multi-local social connection and support, maintenance of cultural identity, and protection of social identity, including across distance. Although essential to the wellbeing of older adults, distant support networks and the digital kinning practices that sustain them receive little attention from policy makers and aged care health practitioners. It is in the creative and diverse practices at the intersections of mobilities and materialities that we see how technologies can transform the experience of ageing in and across place.

Loretta Baldassar is Professor in the Discipline Group of Anthropology and Sociology at The University of Western Australia. She has published extensively on migration, with a particular focus on transnational families and caregiving. Baldassar is Vice President of the International Sociological Association Migration Research Committee and a regional editor for the journal *Global Networks*. She is co-Chief Investigator on ARC Discover Projects: *Ageing and New Media* (Wilding, La Trobe) and *Youth Mobilities* (Harris, Deakin, and Robertson, Western Sydney).

KEYNOTE ADDRESS 2

Relational Comparison and Communities of Care across the Global South and North

Geraldine PRATT

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With my research collaborator, Caleb Johnston, I draw on the notion of relational comparison to think across earlier work on Filipino migrant caregivers in Canada and developing work on the care of persons living with dementia who migrate from the global south to receive care in Chiang Mai Thailand. We situate this exercise in Shu-mei Shih's vision of relational comparison as an ethical practice of bringing into relation terms or places or processes that have 'traditionally been pushed apart from each other due to certain interests, such as the European exceptionalism that undergirds Eurocentricism.' We explore what bringing our earlier work into relation with our current work on care migration brings into view.

Our earlier work told a familiar story of family separation of Filipino families and we have explored resonances with the family separation of Indigenous peoples in Canada to build a bigger story about the Canadian state's and settler colonial society's disregard of racialised people's rights to maintain relations of intimacy and care within their families. The case of families (mostly from Switzerland, England, Germany and the US) choosing to send their family member living with dementia to Thailand for care reverses expected patterns of migration and family separation. While characterising this as a surprising reversal repeats Eurocentric assumptions, we draw on interviews with family members and Thai workers in five facilities in Thailand to explore what these processes also tell us about the vulnerability of more privileged white families in need of care in the face of inadequate care options at home. In other words, we explore what it tells us about how far neoliberal state policies reach into the lives of even the most privileged in need of dementia care in the global north. Further, we consider how communities of care fail families in the global north and the possibilities of new communities of care in Thailand.

Geraldine Pratt is Professor of Geography and Canada Research Chair in Transnationalism and Precarious Labour at the University of British Columbia. She has collaborated for the last twenty-five years with Filipino migrant organisations: the Philippine Women Center, Migrante BC and Migrante International on research on the migration of Filipino caregivers to Canada. From and as part of this research, she has co-written with Caleb Johnston *Nanay: a testimonial play*, which has been performed in Vancouver, Winnipeg and Whitehorse in Canada, as well as Berlin and Manila. Their new project on dementia care of Europeans in Thailand has involved a collaboration with a Berlin-based theatre company, Costa compagnie. Their co-production, *Between Worlds*, is being presented in Berlin (Ballhaus Ost) and Newcastle (Northern Stage) in November 2019.

Shared Spaces and ‘Throwntogetherness’: Older Singaporeans and PRC Grandparenting Migrants in Jurong, Singapore

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As older migrants move across borders, the local spaces they reside in and use for their daily activities are shared with older non-migrants as well. While there has been considerable academic interest in the topic of encounters, including within the migration literature, little is known about how older migrants and non-migrants interact with one another in shared spaces, inflecting thus the experiences of ageing for both groups. Through qualitative and GIS research (qualitative GIS) conducted in a mature estate in Singapore, known as Jurong, this paper identifies the spaces in which grandparenting migrants from the People’s Republic of China (PRC) and non-migrant older Singaporeans ‘encounter’ one another. It highlights two types of spatial encounters that ensue: the first type are spaces that nurture meaningful interactions, while the other type are spaces that are used by both older migrants and non-migrants but their encounters are at best fleeting and asynchronous. The paper provides insights on what ageing across borders means, not only for older migrants themselves, but also non-migrant older adults who experience ‘transnationalism by proxy’ as a result of the changes brought to their neighbourhood by migration. The paper draws on multi-staged qualitative GIS research conducted with 10 PRC grandparenting migrants and 20 older Singaporeans living in Jurong and ethnographic observations in Jurong, and is situated in a wider interview sample consisting of 41 PRC grandparenting migrants and 69 older Singaporeans.

Elaine Lynn-Ee Ho is Associate Professor at the Department of Geography and Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore. Her research addresses how citizenship is changing as a result of multi-directional migration flows in the Asia-Pacific. She is author of *Citizens in Motion: Emigration, Immigration and Re-migration across China's Borders* (Stanford University Press), which received the American Sociological Association’s (ASA) award for ‘Best Book in Global and Transnational Sociology by an International Scholar’ in 2019. Elaine is Editor of the journal, *Social and Cultural Geography*, and serves on the journal editorial boards of *Citizenship Studies*; *Emotions, Society and Space*; and the *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*. Her current research focuses on two domains: first, transnational ageing and care in the Asia-Pacific; and second, im/mobilities and diaspora aid at the China-Myanmar border.

Guo Zhou is Postdoctoral Fellow at the Geography Department at the National University of Singapore (NUS). His research focuses mainly on qualitative GIS, high-resolution satellite imagery (including land use classification, land cover change detection, and data fusion with other data sources) as well as 3D LiDAR point cloud (including point cloud classification and 3D reconstruction). He has published in a number of international journals including *International Journal of Geographic Information Science (IJGIS)*, *International Journal of Remote Sensing (IJRS)*, *Remote Sensing*, *GIScience & Remote Sensing*, *IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Applied Earth Observations and Remote Sensing*, and *International Journal of Image and Data Fusion*. He also serves as a reviewer for *IJGIS*, *IJRS*, *Remote Sensing*, *Journal of Transport and Health*, and *Sensors*.

Liew Jian An is Research Associate at the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore (NUS). His research interests thus far have focused on the intersections between migrant mobilities, class, skills, race/ethnicity and space/place in the contexts of Singapore and London. Currently, he is part of the TRACE team that considers three interrelated aspects of care circulation: (1) grandparenting migration; (2) caring for the aged and the left-behind care chains of foreign carers; and (3) retirement migration. Specifically, he conducts academic field research and provides administrative support to the Singapore study site.

Jenny Tuen Yi Chiu is Assistant Professor at the Department of Sociology and Social Policy, Lingnan University, Hong Kong. She specialises in research on migration and transnationalism, gender, marriage and family, intergenerational relations, ageing, and violence in intimate relationships. Prior to joining Lingnan, she was Research Assistant Professor at the University of Hong Kong and Postdoctoral Fellow at the Asia Research Institute (ARI) National University of Singapore (NUS). Her current research projects include: 1) Cross-border marriage migration between mainland China and Hong Kong and 2) Transnational ageing and Chinese grandparenting migrants in Singapore and Australia. She has published articles in *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Population, Space and Place*, *Gender, Place and Culture*, *Violence against Women* and *Current Sociology*.

Shirlena Swee Lian Huang is Associate Professor at the Geography Department at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Her research focuses mainly on issues at the intersection of migration, gender and families (with a particular focus on care labour migration and transnational families within the Asia-Pacific region) as well as urbanisation and heritage conservation (particularly in Singapore). She serves on several editorial boards including *Gender Place and Culture*, *International Journal of Population Research*, *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*, and *Women's Studies International Forum*, as well as book series *Asian Cultural Studies: Transnational and Dialogic Approaches* (Rowman & Littlefield) and *The Intimate and the Public in Asian and Global Perspectives* (Brill).

Brenda S.A. Yeoh is Raffles Professor of Social Sciences at the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Research Leader of the Asian Migration Cluster at the Asia Research Institute, NUS. Her research interests include the politics of space in colonial and postcolonial cities, and she also has considerable experience working on a wide range of migration research in Asia, including key themes such as cosmopolitanism and highly skilled talent migration; gender, social reproduction and care migration; migration, national identity and citizenship issues; globalising universities and international student mobilities; and cultural politics, family dynamics and international marriage migrants. She has published widely on these topics and her recent books include *Transnational Labour Migration, Remittances and the Changing Family in Asia* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015, with Lan Anh Hoang) and *Contested Memoryscapes: The Politics of Second World War Commemoration in Singapore* (Routledge, 2016, with Hamzah Muzaini), *Asian Migrants and Religious Experience: From Missionary Journeys to Labor Mobility* (Amsterdam University Press, 2018 with Bernardo Brown) and *Handbook of Asian Migrations* (Routledge, 2018 with Gracia Liu-Farrer).

‘Ageing in Transnational Place’ for Korean Older People in Singapore

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Where do older people of transnational family background feel at home to live or retire? This study expands the concept of ‘ageing in place’ by social gerontologists (Callahan 1993; Wiles et al. 2012) for older people who live in transnational migration context (Kim 2012; Treas 2008, 2015). We propose the concept ‘ageing in transnational place’ for the ‘ideal’ or ‘right’ place—right in multiple meanings of feeling at home to live or to retire. We conducted in-depth interviews and grounded interview analysis on two subgroups of Korean older adults, (1) 60 years and older and (2) between 50 and 59 years old, who have spent significant parts of their working age lives overseas—at least for twenty years—in Singapore or overseas including some years in Singapore. Our sample includes interviewees participated in the study both in 2006-7 and a follow-up in 2018-9. We investigate how older migrants construct and plan their ‘ideal’ or ‘right’ place for their later life – origin country, host country, a third country or multiple countries over the split months of a year in contemporary migration context. We find that they construct a transnational space of multiple ‘transnational places’ from their own circumstances of multiple familial and friendship relations, health and financial situations as well as their own ‘transnational’, ‘local’ and ‘regional’ preferences and knowledge, which they have built up overseas and origin country. Our research suggests the importance of ageing issues of transnational older adults with transnational lens and of ‘ageing in place’ transnationally.

Jeehun Kim is Professor of Sociology in the Department of Social Studies Education at Inha University, Korea. His research focus is at the intersections of urban, migration and family sociologies, investigating privileged, less privileged, and under-privileged Asians who aspire for social and global mobility across Asia and beyond. His work on intergenerational family relations of transnational Korean families in Singapore was published in *Ageing and Society* (2012). He currently conducts a follow-up study on them, investigating mobilities of older generation and their children’s generation. He has earned his BA in Sociology from Korea University, MSocSci (Sociology) from National University of Singapore. He has received both his MSc from School of Geography and the Environment and DPhil in Sociology from University of Oxford. He held visiting scholar positions at National University of Singapore, New York University, Columbia University, Stockholm University and the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (Jakarta).

Tae-Young Yun is a Lecturer in the Department of Social Studies Education at Inha University, Korea. Her main research interests include intergenerational family relationships in ageing society context, Long-Term Care services in Korea, and the Welfare States in Asia. She received her doctoral degree in Sociology from University of Göttingen, Germany in 2019, conducting research on experiences of semi-formal caregivers (family care helpers) for their old family members in Korea, using narrative-biographical interviews analysis. She holds Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Social Welfare from Yonsei University.

Transnational Aging and Approaches to End-of-Life Practices for Asian Migrants in Australia

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Australia has a diverse population of more than 24 million. The population includes many Asian migrants approaching or already at retirement age of 65 years and over. This paper provides insights into how older Asian migrants in Australia negotiate transnational aging across home and host cultures when it comes to end-of-life practices, funeral rites and memorialisation. The study is situated in Melbourne, a multicultural city in the state of Victoria. In-depth interviews were conducted with 51 study participants from Asian migrant backgrounds. Findings show that hybrid practices involving more than one culture and often more than one faith were common among the participants, including within families. The study indicates that the Asian migrants were likely to seek cemetery space in Australia. Many revealed 'pre-planning' their funeral rites to ensure their wishes were met by their younger transnational family members. Despite the diverse Asian backgrounds of the participants, they often expressed similar values relating to life and transnational aging.

Helen Forbes-Mewett is Discipline Head of Sociology and Deputy Director of the Monash Migration and Inclusion Centre at Monash University, Australia. Her interdisciplinary work focuses on migration, international education, cultural diversity and social cohesion in relation to both migrant and receiving communities. Dr Forbes-Mewett is a member of the Victorian Multicultural Commission Regional Advisory Committee. She is also an Editorial Board member and Associate Editor for the Journal of International Students. Dr Forbes-Mewett has published widely in scholarly academic journals and she is author of four books including: *International Student Security* (2010), *International Students and Crime* (2015), and *The New Security: Individual, Community and Cultural Experiences* (2018). Her forthcoming book, *Vulnerability in a Mobile World*, will be published in 2019.

Transnational Ageing and Critical Caring Strategies among Intergenerational Filipino Migrant and Non-Migrant Networks

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As policies and programs proliferate to meet the demands of a global care industry that does not care for care workers, transnational migrant and non-migrant networks are being forced to redefine how they care, and to adapt and develop new strategies to ensure their own collective survival and maintain kin solidarity, or a sense of family, broadly defined. Drawing on multisited ethnographic research conducted with a total of seventy participants in the Philippines, Canada, and Hong Kong, this paper will pay particular attention to the innovative ways in which transnational care networks utilize digital platforms such as Skype, Facebook, Viber, and WhatsApp to engage in new and emerging forms of care. Through an analysis of digital technology use among migrant and non-migrant elderly Filipinos, this paper will argue that elderly kin learn to maintain active and robust digital lives with younger kin in order to facilitate their collective survival over time and across generations. Accounting for multiple reconfigurations of care across the lifecourse that include return migrants performing end-of-life care for elderly kin over Skype, the larger argument of the paper lies in its reconceptualization of transnational care and emotional labour as multidirectional and multirelational in scope.

Conely de Leon is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Ryerson University in Toronto, Canada. Her research looks at transnational practices of care and emotional labour among Filipino migrant domestic workers and caregivers in Canada, the Philippines, and Hong Kong. de Leon received her doctoral degree in Gender, Feminist, and Women's Studies at York University. Her work can be found in academic journals such as *Canadian Woman Studies*, and edited volumes such as *Precarious Employment: Causes, Consequences and Remedies*, *When Care Work Goes Global: Locating the Social Relations of Domestic Work*, and *Filipinos in Canada: Disturbing Invisibility*. Her most recent collaborative publications with Gabriela Ontario (General Assembly Binding Women for Reforms, Integrity, Equality, Leadership and Action), Migrante Canada, and the Community Alliance for Social Justice can be found in *Canadian Ethnic Studies* and the *International Labour Review*.

Doing Transnational Care: Migrant Care Workers and Their Left-Behind Aged Parents

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This study uses the narratives of live-in migrant care workers (LMCW) in Taiwan to extend the concept of global care chain, which is based on the lived experiences of live-in domestic workers and their experiences as mothers. It focuses on the multiple care responsibilities of LMCW who care for the aged parents of their employers and themselves at the same time, to provide further discussion on the crisis of care ethics and the issue of care justice in the context of globalized aging.

The increase flow of migrant care workers from poorer countries to wealthier countries highlights the urgency of care labor deficits in more developed countries. The group of migrants, mostly are women taking care of the elderly and disabled people in receiving countries, and leave their aged parents and children back home. Migrant care workers in Taiwan are under the guest workers scheme. They are not entitled to the rights of family reunion and naturalization as Taiwan citizens. The majority of them have kept moving forth and back between receiving country, Taiwan and sending countries for a long time. Their lived experiences demonstrate the trajectory of temporary labor migration. The data are drawn from an ethnographic study, including the interviews with 15 live-in migrant care workers from Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam, and the fieldnotes of participant observation on their daily life. It aims to answer the following two questions:

1. How do migrant care workers negotiate care responsibilities with their aged parents and other family members either back home or overseas?
2. How do migrant care workers maintain their care responsibilities while they are working overseas? What kind of difficulties and challenges do they confront? How do they deal with difficulties and challenges?

Based on the findings, this study point outs the transnational inequalities caused by the unidirectional flows of migrant care labor from sending countries to receiving countries and argues the importance to center care ethics in the discussion on global care chain.

Li-Fang Liang received her doctoral degree in the Department of Sociology at Syracuse University. Currently, Dr Liang is affiliated with the Department of Sociology at National Dong-Hwa University. Her previous research investigated how the social organization and social relations of carework (re)shape the lived experiences of live-in migrant care workers and care recipients. The current project explores how migrant care workers maintain their care responsibilities and practices in the transnational context. Her work is published in *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Journal of Intimacy and Public Sphere*, *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, *Journal of Aging Studies*, *International Journal of Care and Caring* and as book chapters.

Care Circulations between Singapore and Myanmar: Balancing Eldercare Work Abroad with Care for Ageing Parents Back Home

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While considerable attention has been given to the impact of migration on left/stay-behind families, such research focuses on the children of migrants, rather than older members of the family (e.g. parents and grandparents) who play crucial roles in maintaining familyhood in place and across borders (exceptions include Bastia, 2009; Yaris, 2017). Through a multi-sited study of foreign domestic migration (FDW) between Singapore and Myanmar for eldercare work, we draw attention to the care circulations connecting elderly employers in Singapore with the families of the FDWs, in particular ageing parents in Myanmar. We interviewed 28 current and former FDWs, as well as 10 ageing parents (n=38), of which there are 7 care dyads (i.e. domestic worker and parent/s). We underline the fraught relations of care and familyhood that are re/constructed by the domestic workers to give meaning to the eldercare work they do abroad, while also drawing out the ways in which left/stay-behind parents both receive and provide care as a result of their daughters' migration. Our paper extends Leinaweaver's (2010) notion of the "care slot" as a space where the absence of care by a particular kin is filled by another person, but the latter's absence thus needs to be filled by a different person. We add to her conceptualization of the care slot by eliciting the multidirectional aspects of caregiving and care receiving in a transnational context, and with respect to ageing and intergenerational and extended familyhood across borders.

Wen-Ching Ting is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore. She is working under the research project entitled, 'Transnational Relations, Ageing and Care Ethics (TRACE)' to examine care migration from Myanmar to Singapore and the left-behind care chains. Prior to ARI, Ting was a Postdoctoral/Research Fellow between Dec 2016 and June 2018, under the research project entitled 'Capitalising Human Mobility for Poverty Alleviation and Inclusive Development in Myanmar' (CHIME), at the University of Sussex to explore the nexus between poverty, migration and development in Myanmar. She obtained a doctoral degree in Migration Studies from the University of Sussex in 2016. Her research interests include migration and social changes, mobility, displacement, place-making, aid and development. Her geographical areas of research focus mainly on Southeast Asia countries.

Elaine Lynn-Ee Ho is Associate Professor at the Department of Geography and Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore. Her research addresses how citizenship is changing as a result of multi-directional migration flows in the Asia-Pacific. She is author of *Citizens in Motion: Emigration, Immigration and Re-migration across China's Borders* (Stanford University Press), which received the American Sociological Association's (ASA) award for 'Best Book in Global and Transnational Sociology by an International Scholar' in 2019. Elaine is Editor of the journal, *Social and Cultural Geography*, and serves on the journal editorial boards of *Citizenship Studies*; *Emotions, Society and Space*; and the *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*. Her current research focuses on two domains: first, transnational ageing and care in the Asia-Pacific; and second, im/mobilities and diaspora aid at the China-Myanmar border.

Older Migrants as Carers: Chinese and Japanese Retirees in Southeast Asia

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Older persons migrate not only to receive care, but also to provide care. While it is common that grandparents help with housework worldwide, particularly with childcare, it is an arguably distinct phenomenon that older persons migrate over long-distance and cross-national borders as carers. Based on the authors' collaborative and comparative studies on migrant Chinese and Japanese retirees in Sanya (Hainan island in China) and Chiang Mai (Thailand), this article identifies five types of care provided by older migrants: (1) care for their parents who migrate with them; (2) care for their grandchildren, many of whom are educational migrants; (3) care for newly formed families in the destination, primarily through financial transfer and welfare entitlement; (4) self-care in the sense that they migrate in order to improve health condition therefore to minimize the need for others' care; and (5) mutual care among peers by forming associations or informal cooperatives.

Older migrants are able to provide care because they had experienced hardship at younger age and then benefited from rapid industrialization and the expanding social welfare (particularly in China). As a result many of them are more resourceful and more independently spirited than the younger generation. As such, this article will call attention to older migrants' agency, the complexity of care relations, and shed new light on changes in the Asian political economy over the last half century.

Mika Toyota is professor in tourism studies and Biao Xiang is professor of social anthropology. They have worked on transnational migrations of various types across Asia, most recently on retirement mobilities. Their joint publications include 'The emerging Transnational retirement industry in Southeast Asia' *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy* (2012) and *Return: Nationalizing Transnational Mobility in Asia*. (co-edited with Brenda Yeoh; Duke University Press 2013). On the topic of transnational elderly care, Toyota's forthcoming publications include "Dying Alone: Social Displacement and Retirement Migration of Low-income Japanese Men in Thailand" (*Ageing and Society*), and "I am unlike other men": multi-referencing masculinity among Japanese elderly migrants in northern Thailand" (*Sexualities*).

Temporariness and Post-Migration Adaptation: A Comparative Study on Mainland Chinese Grandparenting Migrants in Singapore and Australia

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Post-migration adaptation has been one of the major themes in migration studies. Yet, extant studies typically focus on the case of long-term migration and tend to neglect the experience of those who undergo temporary migration. While long-term migrants are expected to acculturate to the host society, temporary migrants have a limited duration of stay in the host society. The framework of acculturation, therefore, might not be applicable to temporary migrants. This might be especially the case for older migrants, as they are often considered a welfare burden to the host society and have gloomy prospect for long-term migration despite their wish to settle down with their children and grandchildren abroad. Drawing on the experiences of 72 Chinese grandparenting migrants in Singapore (41) and Australia (31), this study aims to delineate an alternative approach to understanding the post-migration adaptation experiences of older temporary migrants. We do so by examining their experiences of life as temporary migrants ageing between countries, looking into the key aspects that they have to adapt to the host society albeit their limited period of stay, as well as the constraints they encountered and the strategies they used to cope with that. Moreover, we compare the experiences of grandparenting migrants in Singapore and Australia to reveal how the institutional (immigration regimes and their prospects of long-term migration) and socio-spatial (the demographic composition of the neighbourhood they reside in and accessible co-ethnic networks available) contexts of reception lead to diverse adaptation patterns among older temporary migrants.

Jenny Tuen Yi Chiu is Assistant Professor at the Department of Sociology and Social Policy, Lingnan University, Hong Kong. She specialises in research on migration and transnationalism, gender, marriage and family, intergenerational relations, ageing, and violence in intimate relationships. Prior to joining Lingnan, she was Research Assistant Professor at the University of Hong Kong and Postdoctoral Fellow at the Asia Research Institute (ARI) National University of Singapore (NUS). Her current research projects include: 1) Cross-border marriage migration between mainland China and Hong Kong and 2) Transnational ageing and Chinese grandparenting migrants in Singapore and Australia. She has published articles in *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Population, Space and Place*, *Gender, Place and Culture*, *Violence against Women* and *Current Sociology*.

Elaine Lynn-Ee Ho is Associate Professor at the Department of Geography and Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore. Her research addresses how citizenship is changing as a result of multi-directional migration flows in the Asia-Pacific. She is author of *Citizens in Motion: Emigration, Immigration and Re-migration across China's Borders* (Stanford University Press), which received the American Sociological Association's (ASA) award for 'Best Book in Global and Transnational Sociology by an International Scholar' in 2019. Elaine is Editor of the journal, *Social and Cultural Geography*, and serves on the journal editorial boards of *Citizenship Studies*, *Emotions, Society and Space*, and the *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*. Her current research focuses on two domains: first, transnational ageing and care in the Asia-Pacific; and second, im/mobilities and diaspora aid at the China-Myanmar border.

Shared Patterns and Divergent Trajectories: Theorizing Contemporary Senior Migrants' Global Lifeways

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I have just completed a new ethnography on Chinese retirement migrants in the U.S. On the basis of 4+ years of data collection in and around Boston's Chinatown, I present a detailed portrait—otherwise completely lacking in the scholarly literature on Overseas Chinese and Asian America—on the migration processes and experiences of Cantonese-speaking Chinese seniors who have relocated to the U.S. in the latter decades of their lives (at age 60 or older). Overall, I argue that viewing migration processes through the lens of these migrants' temporal positioning as *seniors* creates opportunities to discover seemingly unexpected alliances and senses of affiliation that structure these seniors' social and political engagements in the U.S., even as these seniors also retain a central pride in being Chinese and continue to make return visits to China to visit family and friends there until they are physically unable to do so. For this paper, I will draw on my fine-grained ethnographic attention to the particular cultural and migratory histories that make this group of senior migrants demographically distinctive to reflect on how their particular situations also resonate more broadly with the experiences of senior migrants worldwide. In other words, I will discuss findings from this ethnographic case study and how those findings can be used to generate theoretical ideas useful not only for understanding the desires and situations of Chinese senior migrants today but also for making sense of the global lifeways of senior migrants in the 21st century more generally.

Nicole Newendorp is a Lecturer and the Assistant Director of Studies at Harvard University's Committee on Degrees in Social Studies, where she has been a faculty member since 2004. Dr Newendorp is an anthropologist who studies Chinese migration and family life in Asia and the U.S. Her new book on the retirement migration of Chinese-born seniors to the U.S., with particular focus on how Cantonese-speaking seniors' memories and subjective experiences of movement within and beyond China over past decades continues to influence their migration trajectories in the 21st century, will be published by Stanford University Press in 2020. She received the 2009 Francis L.K. Hsu Book Prize by the American Association of Anthropology's Society for East Asian Anthropology for her ethnography of Chinese cross-border marriage migration in contemporary Hong Kong: *Uneasy Reunions: Immigration, Citizenship, and Family Life in Post-1997 Hong Kong* (Stanford University Press, 2008).

The Temporal Borders of Transnational Belonging: Ageing Migrant Domestic Workers in Singapore

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While there is much public debate about the growing need for migrant domestic workers to care for increasingly ageing populations in Asia, we hear little about the futures of domestic workers themselves. This paper focuses on the experiences of ageing migrant domestic workers in Singapore who have lived abroad for much of their adult lives. Among the widely circulating discourses of the state, employers and migrants themselves, is that long-term domestic workers are 'exceptional', 'one of the family' and seen as indispensable (even as their everyday lives and mobilities are shaped by a highly restrictive and unequal regime of migrant labour). However, as the state denies them possibilities for permanent residence and citizenship, returns 'home' become inevitable by the age of 60 (the state-mandated 'maximum age') and the limits of transnational social protections are brought to the fore. Domestic workers' 'indispensability' is time-bound, cut-off at the moment when the labouring body gets older and in need of care itself. Ongoing ethnographic research, which to date includes 40 in-depth interviews with domestic workers, policy officers, co-operatives and NGOs, as well as regular encounters and observations in domestic workers' online and offline worlds, illuminates how migrant women find themselves facing uncertain and insecure futures in later life, financially and emotionally. The 'home' to which they will return is one that they have carefully maintained and longed for through transnational care practices over the years, but from which many also feel estranged; and the looming moment of institutionally-defined retirement and return reveals among migrants deeply ambivalent notions of home, place and kinship. Their narratives demonstrate the temporal borders of transnational belonging, and the conflictual and uneven intersections between citizenship, gender, and care over the life course.

Megha Amrith is Research Group Leader of the 'Ageing in a Time of Mobility' research group at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Göttingen, Germany, which examines the diverse interconnections between ageing and translocal mobilities in the Global South. Her research is on migrant labour, care, ageing, inequalities, belonging and citizenship, with a focus on migrants in and from Asia. Megha Amrith holds a PhD in Social Anthropology from the University of Cambridge and has previously held research fellowships at the United Nations University in Barcelona and the Centre for Metropolitan Studies in São Paulo. She is the author of *Caring for Strangers: Filipino Medical Workers in Asia* (NIAS Press, 2017) and co-editor (with N. Sahraoui) of *Gender, Work and Migration: Agency in Gendered Labour Settings* (Routledge, 2018).

Curtailed Dreams and Forced Transnationalism: The Effects of Migration Regimes on Lived Experiences of Older Filipino Migrants in Australia

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Transnationalism is generally acknowledged as a positive agentic force in the social sciences literature. This is particularly the case in the literature describing the transnational experiences of older migrants who stretch their lives between global North and global South. What has been less explored is the extent to which migration policies influence the lived experiences of older migrants travelling from global North to global South, particularly for first-generation migrants who could be viewed as 'returning' to their home country. Although the number of older Filipino migrants in Australia is increasing, existing research on older Filipino migrants in Australia has been rather limited. This research aims to bridge this gap by examining the lived experiences of older Filipino migrants who stretch their lives across Australia and the Philippines. Data from 18 months' of fieldwork and 18 semi-structured interviews and focus groups with over 30 Filipino migrants in Australia suggest an experience that is not widely explored in the literature. This research finds that, instead of framing their transnational lives as an agentic response, older Filipino migrants in Australia frame their transnational existence in terms of 'curtailed dreams'. This research therefore calls for a more critical examination of transnational experiences of older migrants who live in a single social field between global North and global South.

Charmaine Lim was recently awarded her Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree from the School of Social Sciences at the University of Western Australia. For her PhD research, she received a postgraduate scholarship to examine the lived experiences of Filipino migrants in Australia. Through her voluntary engagement with Filipino migrant organisations, Charmaine became particularly interested in looking at the role that non-state structures play in social and individual cohesion both locally and globally. Before her PhD, Charmaine received First Class Honours for her thesis on narratives of belonging among South-east Asian women in Australia. Since 2019, she has worked as a sessional academic staff member at The University of Western Australia.

From Lifestyle Aspirations to Care Aspirations: Sri Lankan-British Retirement Migrants' Transnational Care Negotiations during Frailty

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International retirement migrants' experiences of negotiating care and their reducing independence in a foreign country is a relatively recent area of research. Much of the available work focuses on British retirees' negotiations in Spain as members of the European Union, while a few studies note the emerging issues among Japanese and German retirees in Thailand. This paper examines the experiences of 38 Sri Lankan-British, retired, skilled immigrants who return to Sri Lanka permanently or circularly as a form of retirement migration. Since the majority of them are dual citizens they have access to the welfare systems of both countries. The analysis draws upon interviews conducted in 2014 and follow-up interviews that took place with several participants until 2019. Their narratives reveal how retirement migration that is generally conceived as a lifestyle movement is either conducted to address the retirees' care needs or gradually evolves to accommodate their increasing frailty. I argue that the retirees' transnational care negotiations between Sri Lanka and the United Kingdom (UK) focus on fulfilling their physical needs (access to high quality medical care), emotional needs (presence of supportive extended or immediate family), and material needs (maintenance of their home and properties in Sri Lanka). The paper reveals how (in)ability to fulfil these care needs leads to a 'reverse return migration' to the UK, frequent visits by the retirees' UK-based adult-children who care for their parents in Sri Lanka, and/or a greater dependence on extended family during care crises in the retirement destination.

Menusha de Silva was a research fellow at the School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University. She received her PhD from the Department of Geography, National University of Singapore and was a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute of Education (NIE), Nanyang Technological University. Her research explores the intersections of transnational migration and ageing, with a particular focus on Sri Lankan migrants' later-life mobility and negotiations of transnational citizenship, and eldercare relations within transnational families. She has published her work in peer-reviewed journals such as *Area*, *Gender, Place and Culture*, and *Population, Space and Place*.

Middle-Class Transnational Caregiving: Unmarried Ageing Migrants Compelled to Return

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The extant literature on care circulation has placed at its centre of analysis the notion of 'transnational familyhood', in various manifestations. Importantly, the framework notes that the exchange of caregiving is uneven and gives attention to the factors that facilitate or hinder the circulation of care within different types of transnational families. In particular, Kilkey and Merla (2013) noted the importance of institutional contexts such as the regimes of migration, welfare and gendered care. While scholars have noted that migrants' interaction with these regimes vary according to key factors such as gender, class, ethnicity, age and position in the migration and family cycles, the importance of marriage status remains an underexplored area of investigation. Drawing on interviews with thirty-two middle-class Singaporean migrants aged between 50 to 76, and who are living in or commuting between Singapore and China, this paper considers how a migrant's unmarried status becomes an important factor for considering return migration as he or she ages, or in view of responsibilities towards ageing parents back in Singapore. For those who are unmarried migrants (about one-third of the study sample), both the host country's migration regime and the sending country's welfare and gendered care regime compel our respondents to return to care for elderly parents. We argue that an analysis of unmarried migrants serves as a window to critically examine the heteronormative norms that are maintained by institutional contexts, as well as norms that heterosexual, nuclear-family forming migrants rely on to support their ageing migration journey but which do not support ageing 'Others'. The paper contributes to illuminating the inequalities of care circulations in middle-class transnational caregiving.

Sylvia Ang is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Asian Migration Cluster, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. Her research interests lie at the intersection of race and migration, including racism, co-ethnicity and Chineseness. She has published in the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Gender, Place and Culture*, *Journal of Intercultural Studies*, *Postcolonial Studies* and *Cultural Studies Review*. She is currently working on two projects: the first is a multi-sited grant project Transnational Relations, Ageing and Care Ethics (TRACE) where she investigates how older Singaporeans age and care in China; second, she is developing her PhD dissertation into a book preliminarily titled *Contesting Chineseness: new Chinese migrants and the politics of co-ethnicity*.

Leng Leng Thang is Associate Professor at the Department of Japanese Studies, and Associate at Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore. Her research interests include Japan-Singapore socio-cultural issues, intergenerational relations and programming, aging, family, retirement, gender with a focus on Japan and Singapore, as well as Asia in general. She is the author of *Generations in Touch: Linking the Old and Young in a Tokyo Neighborhood* (Cornell University Press), and co-author of *Ageing in Singapore: Service needs and the State* (Routledge). Leng Leng is also co-editor in chief of the *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships* (Taylor and Francis).

Elaine Lynn-Ee Ho is Associate Professor at the Department of Geography and Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore. Her research addresses how citizenship is changing as a result of multi-directional migration flows in the Asia-Pacific. She is author of *Citizens in Motion: Emigration, Immigration and Re-migration across China's Borders* (Stanford University Press), which received the American Sociological Association's (ASA) award for 'Best Book in Global and Transnational Sociology by an International Scholar' in 2019. Elaine is Editor of the journal, *Social and Cultural Geography*, and serves on the journal editorial boards of *Citizenship Studies*; *Emotions, Society and Space*; and the *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*. Her current research focuses on two domains: first, transnational ageing and care in the Asia-Pacific; and second, im/mobilities and diaspora aid at the China-Myanmar border.

Negotiating Ageing and Intergenerational Relationships: Older Filipino Women Migrants in Malaysia

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Malaysia is one of the top 10 countries with the highest number of overseas Filipinos and is estimated to have around 620,043 Filipinos living and working there (Philippine Embassy data, 2017). While research on migrant workers (Chin 1998, 2003; Lumayag 2018; Hilsdon and Giridharan 2008), undocumented migrants (Lumayag 2016), as well as intermarriages between Filipinos and Malaysians (Dumanig, et. al. 2015; Lumayag 2016) have been topics of academic inquiry in the literature, ageing or older Filipino migrants in Malaysia are rarely given notice.

This exploratory study focuses on older Filipino female migrants in Malaysia, one of the largest Southeast Asian groups in the country, and analyses the role gender plays in the ageing process/es and experiences of these migrants. Based on semi-structured interviews and focus-group discussions conducted in Kuala Lumpur and Petaling Jaya in February to March 2018 and August 2018, this study examines these women's experiences of ageing and argues that these are not only linked to biological notions of ageing as tied to one's physical body, but are also intertwined with factors such as gender, social class, and socio-cultural expectations on their familial roles. Moreover, this study investigates these migrants' intergenerational relationships with their family members back home, how they negotiate their own experiences of ageing with their familial roles, as well as how they engage in practices of 'transnational care-giving' (Baldassar 2007).

This study aims to contribute to existing literature on migration, ageing, and transnational families by problematizing this specific Asian case.

Johanna O. Zulueta is Associate Professor of Sociology at the Faculty of International Liberal Arts of Soka University. She received her AB from the Ateneo de Manila University and her PhD from Hitotsubashi University. In 2011-2013, she was a Postdoctoral Fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Her main research interest is on migrations in East Asia, looking at issues related to ethnicity, gender, citizenship, home, and aging. Her recent publications include: *Thinking Beyond the State: Migration, Integration, and Citizenship in Japan and the Philippines* (editor), De La Salle University Publishing House and Sussex Academic Press (2018); 'Karei Imin to Shitizunshippu: Komyuniti toshite no Katorikku Kyoukai [Aging Migrants and Citizenship: The Catholic Church as a Community]', in *Kyousei Shakai no Sai-Kouchiku [Re-constructing a Symbiotic Society]*, Houritsu Bunkasha (2019); and *Transnational Identities on Okinawa's Military Bases: Invisible Armies*, Palgrave Macmillan (forthcoming).

When Care Travels: Spatial Reorganisation of Elder Care in a Transnational Setting

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In the context of an increasing spatial dispersal of family members across the globe, the distances separating them and the technologies bringing them closer, the paper highlights the spatial reorganisation of care for the older persons staying behind. Through the lens of transnationalism and Fisher and Tronto's (1990) conceptualization of care as an ongoing process consisting of four interconnected phases—*caring about*, *taking care of*, *care-giving* and *care-receiving*, the paper teases out the spatiality of care. The paper illustrates how care travels and also remains located, how care practices stretch from 'here' to 'there' and how the purchase of care and time-space compressing technologies find a place in caring across borders. I contend that as limitations of distance and time challenge the caring process, the most valuable aspects of care are sought to be retained by the transnational migrant children while the less valuable ones are often delegated or outsourced to paid care workers through a 'market transfer'; in the process rearticulating the content and practice of filial care. Using ethnographic methods, the paper engages with these issues in an empirical setting in Central Travancore, Kerala, India; where there is large scale migration of younger generation and intensification of ageing among those staying behind. In-depth interviews and narratives of middle and upper-middle-class older Christians and observations about their care arrangements provide the empirical material for the study.

Sreerupa is a Post-Doctoral Research Associate for the ERC Project on the Laws of Social Reproduction with the Centre for Women's Development Studies, King's College London. She has PhD in Economics from the Centre for Development Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. She specializes in the area of gender, care work, ageing, transnational migration, ethnographic research and mixed methods research. Apart from doctoral research, she has worked on ageing and health policy issues as a consultant for the HelpAge International on a research project titled 'Study on accessing healthcare by the older population, Myanmar' and conducted collaborative research on health expectancy in India and Kerala at the Nihon University Population Research Institute (NUPRI), Tokyo.

Who Cares? Older Singaporeans Negotiating Care Expectations

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International migration has meant that many families in Asia are increasingly sustained by caregiving/receiving practices that extend across borders. These include sending care packages and remittances home and tapping into communication technologies as forms of long-distance care, employing foreign domestic workers to plug 'proximate care deficits' for left-behind family members, as well as 'care runs' home to fulfil care responsibilities. Although existing literatures have engaged with these various care morphologies of transnational families, attention has focused on adult migrants and left-behind dependent children, while the perspectives of older (grand)parents who remain at home have been relatively under-explored (Wilding & Baldassar, 2018). Further, while this scholarship has examined the commoditisation of love wherein migrant family members substitute materiality for emotional intimacy, insufficient attention has been paid to how emotion mediates (dis)connectedness among distant and proximate family members (Boehm & Swank, 2011).

Drawing on in-depth interviews with 17 older Singaporeans (≥ 60 years) with at least one adult (grand)child residing overseas, we seek to understand what care means in old age especially when tempered by geographic distance and communication technologies. Through examining how these elderly family members draw on a range of discourses and practices of care, we demonstrate the agentic ways they reformulate and negotiate their local and transnational care networks, including reconfiguring their roles as 'carer' and/or 'cared for', within and beyond the home, community and nation. In so doing, our paper aims to contribute to first, scholarship on how emotions are experienced, expressed and mapped transnationally in eldercare; and second, the unsettling of binaries such as proximity/distance, caregiving/receiving, presence/absence, im/mobility, and embodied/mediated that often frame our understandings of such care.

Shirlena Swee Lian Huang is Associate Professor at the Geography Department at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Her research focuses mainly on issues at the intersection of migration, gender and families (with a particular focus on care labour migration and transnational families within the Asia-Pacific region) as well as urbanisation and heritage conservation (particularly in Singapore). She serves on several editorial boards including *Gender Place and Culture*, *International Journal of Population Research*, *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*, and *Women's Studies International Forum*, as well as book series *Asian Cultural Studies: Transnational and Dialogic Approaches* (Rowman & Littlefield) and *The Intimate and the Public in Asian and Global Perspectives* (Brill).

Brenda S.A. Yeoh is Raffles Professor of Social Sciences at the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Research Leader of the Asian Migration Cluster at the Asia Research Institute, NUS. Her research interests include the politics of space in colonial and postcolonial cities, and she also has considerable experience working on a wide range of migration research in Asia, including key themes such as cosmopolitanism and highly skilled talent migration; gender, social reproduction and care migration; migration, national identity and citizenship issues; globalising universities and international student mobilities; and cultural politics, family dynamics and international marriage migrants. She has published widely on these topics and her recent books include *Transnational Labour Migration, Remittances and the Changing Family in Asia* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015, with Lan Anh Hoang) and *Contested Memoryscapes: The Politics of Second World War Commemoration in Singapore* (Routledge, 2016, with Hamzah Muzaini), *Asian Migrants and Religious Experience: From Missionary Journeys to Labor Mobility* (Amsterdam University Press, 2018 with Bernardo Brown) and *Handbook of Asian Migrations* (Routledge, 2018 with Gracia Liu-Farrer).

Elaine Lynn-Ee Ho is Associate Professor at the Department of Geography and Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore. Her research addresses how citizenship is changing as a result of multi-directional migration flows in the Asia-Pacific. She is author of *Citizens in Motion: Emigration, Immigration and Re-migration across China's Borders* (Stanford University Press), which received the American Sociological Association's (ASA) award for 'Best Book in Global and Transnational Sociology by an International Scholar' in 2019. Elaine is Editor of the journal, *Social and Cultural Geography*, and serves on the journal editorial boards of *Citizenship Studies*, *Emotions, Society and Space*, and the *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*. Her current research focuses on two domains: first, transnational ageing and care in the Asia-Pacific; and second, im/mobilities and diaspora aid at the China-Myanmar border.

Liew Jian An is Research Associate at the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore (NUS). His research interests thus far have focused on the intersections between migrant mobilities, class, skills, race/ethnicity and space/place in the contexts of Singapore and London. Currently, he is part of the TRACE team that considers three interrelated aspects of care circulation: (1) grandparenting migration; (2) caring for the aged and the left-behind care chains of foreign carers; and (3) retirement migration. Specifically, he conducts academic field research and provides administrative support to the Singapore study site.

About the Organisers and Chairpersons

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