

# Dr Qian Hui TAN

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## Education

- Ph.D. (Human Geography), National University of Singapore, 2022
- Post-graduate Diploma in Education, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University of Singapore, 2013
- M.Soc.Sci (Geography) National University of Singapore, 2012
- B.Soc.Sci (Hons First Class) (Geography) National University of Singapore, 2010

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## Professional Experience

2022-PRESENT

### Postdoctoral Research Fellow, ARI, NUS

- Part of a team that is working on plastic waste and women's household practices in Asia and Australia
- Conducting interviews (in English and Chinese), photovoice exercises, ethnographic observations/participation and archival research (in English and Chinese)
- Coding and analysing empirical findings
- Writing research papers for publication

2021-2022

### Research Officer, Sustainability Learning Lab, NIE, NTU

- Preparatory work for Sustainability Learning Lab's formal launch
- Content cataloguing and creation for Sustainability Learning Lab's new website
- Editing a special HSSE issue on sustainability (education)
- Conceptualising signature pedagogies on sustainability education

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## Research Areas

Queer and feminist theory, gender, sexuality, embodiment, circular economy, sustainability, waste

## Short Biography

**Tan Qian Hui** is Postdoctoral Fellow in the Asian Migration Cluster at Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore (NUS). She obtained her PhD in Geography from NUS and her dissertation investigated the ways in which single individuals in Singapore queer or problematise intimate relationalities and temporal scripts. Her research interests in sexualities, embodiment and more recently, sustainability politics are often informed by critical feminist as well as queer theoretical perspectives. As a socio-cultural geographer by training, her work has been published in *Gender, Place & Culture*, and *Social & Cultural Geography*. She is currently part of an interdisciplinary team that examines household plastic waste management across Singapore, Japan and Australia at ARI.

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## Publications

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### Refereed Articles

- Tan, Q. H. and Yeoh, B. S. A. (2025). Everyday circular literacy in Singaporean households: Informal relational pedagogies in teaching and learning about circular R-behaviours. *Cleaner and Responsible Consumption*, 16, 100256.
- Tan, Q. H. and Yeoh, B. S. A. (2025). Circular sharing: Community-initiated free (cycling) markets/workshops encouraging reuse in Singapore. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 493, 144740.
- Shakuto, S. Yeoh, B. S. A. Reynolds, D. Rahadini, I. A. Tan, Q. H. and Pang, N. (2024). Household Plastic Waste Management and Gender Dynamics in Circular Economies. *Sociology Compass*, 18(12), e70023.
- Tan, Q. H. and Tan, R. K. J. (2024). Chemsex as lines of flight? Critical Deleuzian perspectives on chemical intimacies. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 130, 104508.
- Tan, Q. H. and Yeoh, B. S. A. (2024). The temporal dimensions of textile circularity loops: A community initiative at shortening loops and prolonging textile lives in Singapore. *Resources, Conservation and Recycling*, 206, 107601.
- Tan, Q. H. and Yeoh, B. S. A. (2024). Freecycling Markets as Sustainable Materialist Movements? Closing Reuse Circularity Loops in Singapore. *Worldwide Waste*, 7(1), 1-1.
- Tan, Q. H. (2016). Scent-orship and Scent-iments on the Scent-ual: The Relational Geographies of Smoke/Smell between Smokers and Non-Smokers in Singapore. *The Senses and Society*, 11(2), 177-198.
- Tan, Q. H. (2016). Feeling/filling closet smoking spaces: Negotiating public-private spheres, traversing emotional terrains. *Asian Geographer*, 33(1), 1-21.
- Tan, Q. H. (2016). Living fast and dangerously? Spatio-temporalities of happy and healthful smoking futures. *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*, 37(1), 94-109.
- Tan, Q. H. (2014). Orientalist obsessions: fabricating hyper-reality and performing hyper-femininity in Thailand's kathoey tourism. *Annals of Leisure Research*, 17(2), 145-160.
- Tan, Q. H. (2014). Postfeminist possibilities: Unpacking the paradoxical performances of heterosexualized femininity in club spaces. *Social & Cultural Geography*, 15(1), 23-48.
- Tan, Q. H. (2013). Smoking spaces as enabling spaces of wellbeing. *Health & Place*, 24, 173-182.
- Tan, Q. H. (2013). Smell in the city: Smoking and olfactory politics. *Urban Studies*, 50(1), 55-71.
- Tan, Q. H. (2013). Flirtatious geographies: clubs as spaces for the performance of affective heterosexualities. *Gender, Place & Culture*, 20(6), 718-736.
- Tan, Q. H. (2012). Towards an affective smoking geography. *Geography Compass*, 6(9), 533-545.
- Tan, Q. H. (2011). Gender and tobacco in (globalizing) Asia-exorcizing the ghosts of dualistic thought? *Sociology Compass*, 5(12), 1018-1028.

### Book Chapters

- Tan, Q. H. (2024). Queering Methodologies: Conceptualizing and Conducting Qualitative Research Informed by a Queer Subjectless Critique, *Sage Research Methods Cases: Diversifying and Decolonizing Research*. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781529691092>
- Tan, Q. H. Yeoh, B. and Rahadini, I. A. (2024). Illuminating Household Plastic Consumption and Waste Work via Photovoice Exercises: Potentials and Pitfalls, *Sage Research Methods Cases: Diversifying and Decolonizing Research*. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781529686951>
- Ho, L. C. Seow, T. and Tan, Q. H. (2024). Transcendent civic education: Global comparative explorations of hope and “wicked problems” In E. Yeager (ed.) *The Future of Civic Education: Rebuilding a Democracy in Ruins*. In E. Yeager and K. Barton (ed.) *The Future of Civic Education: Rebuilding a Democracy in Ruins*. Routledge: London, pp. 98-109
- Tan, Q. H. (2022). Clearing the air: Toxic healthism and cigarette(s) (smoke) as (in)toxicant(s) In G. Hunt et al. (eds.) *Routledge Handbook of Intoxication Studies*. Routledge: London, pp. 457-467

Huang, S. and Tan, Q. H. (2020). Feminist Perspectives on Neoliberal Globalization, (Post)feminisms and (Homo)normativities In A. Datta et al. (eds.) *Routledge Handbook of Gender and Feminist Geographies*. Routledge: London, pp. 389-398.

Tan, Q. H. (2017). Atmospheric Affinities: Olfactory accounts of aero-pollution between smokers and non-smokers in Singapore In K. Low and D. Kalekin-Fishman (eds.) *Senses in Cities: Experiences of Urban Settings*. Routledge: London, pp. 105-121.

Tan, Q. H. (2016). Governing Futures and Saving Young Lives: Wilful Smoking Temporalities and Subjectivities, In B. Evans et al. (eds.) *Geographies of Children and Young People*. Springer: Singapore, pp. 1-13.

## Book Review

Tan, Q. H. (2015). Book review of Male Sex Work and Society, Intersections: Gender and Sexuality in Asia and the Pacific, 38, np.

## Op-Eds

Tan, Q. H. (2025). Food rescue in Singapore. *ARIscope*. <https://ari.nus.edu.sg/ariscopes/food-rescue/>

Banerjee, K. and Tan, Q. H. (2024). Feeling Blue: A critical commentary on blue recycling bins in Singapore. *ARIscope*. <https://ari.nus.edu.sg/ariscopes/feeling-blue-a-critical-commentary-on-singapores-household-recycling-practices/>

Tan, Q. H. (2023). The 'Re's in RESS: Reuse and relationalities in closing textile circularity loops. *ARIscope*. <https://ari.nus.edu.sg/ariscopes/closing-textile-circularity-loops-reuse-and-relationalities-at-the-renew-earth-sweat-shop/>

Tan, Q. H. and Seow, T. (2022). Towards transformative pedagogies for sustainability education. *HSSE Online*, 11(2), 21-92.

Seow, T. Das, D. and Tan Q. H. (2022). Editors' forward for HSSE's special issue on sustainability, *HSSE Online*, 11(2), np.

## Conference Paper

Tan, Q. H. (2019). Queering temporalities: Rescripting the capitalist repro-time of single lives, Conference paper and presentation, 14th Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies, Asia Research Institute. 25 July 2019.

Tan, Q. H. (2024). Maternities and Materialities: Mothering with Plastic Baby/child Care Products, Plastic Asia: Materialities, mobilities and mutabilities, Asia Research Institute. 5 August 2024

## Guest lectures

'Feminist approaches in public health research' for SPH6008 Applying social theory in public health research, Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore, 4 March 2023

'Landscapes' for an elective module on Art and Ecology, Lasalle University of the Arts Singapore, 21 August 2024

## Awards/Grants and Distinctions

**2021** Dean's PhD Fellowship, National University of Singapore.

**2019** Graduate Students' Teaching Award (for teaching GE3206 *Gender, Space and Place*), National University of Singapore.

**2019** FASS Graduate Research Support Scheme (for local fieldwork), National University of Singapore.

**2017** President's Graduate Fellowship, National University of Singapore.

**2012** Wang Gungwu Medal and Prize for best Master's thesis in the Social Sciences/Humanities, National University of Singapore.

**2011, 2012** Association of American Geographers' Sexuality and Space Student Paper Competition, Runner-up.

**2011** FASS Graduate Student Conference Funding, National University of Singapore.

**2011** Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography Conference Award.

**2011** FASS Graduate Research Support Scheme (for local fieldwork), National University of Singapore.

**2010** Graduate Research Scholarship, National University of Singapore.

**2009** Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography Book Prize.

**2008** NUS Geographical Society Gold Medal.

**2006 – 2009** Dean's List (5 semesters), National University of Singapore.

**2006** Ministry of Education Teaching Award.