

Keynote Speech 1

Global Inequalities of Reproduction

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Abstract

Across the globe, migrant domestic workers are denied the right to family reunification and reproduction. In this talk, I provide a global overview of the exclusionary conditions of membership for migrant domestic workers to foreground how unequal citizenships accordingly shape their family lives and result in the constitution of migrant domestic workers as *stymied subjects* who are expected to labor as 'other mothers' while being denied the right to mother up close. In the legal context that they cannot be both but are forced to be either mother or worker, I describe the struggles of mothering faced by domestic workers in Dubai, a destination where pregnancy out of wedlock lands one in jail, where domestic workers cannot sponsor the residency of their dependents, and where domestic workers must live-in with their employers.