

Session 4 Dehumanized Population

Presentation 1

Speaker biography

Professor Misaki Iwai

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Professor Misaki Iwai is a sociologist who is interested in cross-border marriage and divorce in Asian countries, especially in Vietnam, Taiwan and Korea. Her primary research areas are rural communities in the Mekong Delta region of southern Vietnam, the home of many marriage migrants. She also conducts fieldwork vigorously in several areas in Taiwan. In the paper "Global Householding' Between Rural Vietnam and Taiwan" (2013) she discussed the formation of a horizontal network by cross-border marriage through interviewing marriage migrants' families (parents and siblings) of the homeland in Vietnam and their newly formed families in Taiwan. Currently she is interested in the question of how maternal families and local communities in Vietnam accept "children with foreign roots". Through the study of "children with roots in Vietnam" in Taiwan and "children with foreign roots in Vietnam" she is considering cultural interaction and the social significance of cultural identity.