

Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

REPRODUCING CHINA: Childbirth, One Child, and Beyond

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Conveners

Leon Rocha (Cambridge / FU Berlin)

Lily Chang (Cambridge)

Howard Chiang (Princeton / Academia Sinica, Taiwan)

Volker Scheid (Westminster)

Friday 13 - Saturday 14 July 2012

Alison Richard Building

7 West Road · Cambridge

More info and online registration:

www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/1715



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The conveners are grateful for the support of a Cambridge Humanities Research Grant, the 'Generation to Reproduction' programme through a Wellcome Trust Strategic Award in the history of medicine to the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Needham Research Institute, Cambridge, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Cambridge and the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) at the University of Cambridge, and the University of Westminster.

Reproducing China: Childbirth, One Child, and Beyond

Friday, 13 to Saturday, 14 July 2012

CRASSH, Alison Richard Building, 7 West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DT

Conveners

Dr Leon Antonio Rocha (Emmanuel College, Cambridge and Freie Universität Berlin)

Dr Lily Chang (History/Magdalene College, University of Cambridge)

Dr Howard Chiang (Princeton University and Academia Sinica, Taiwan)

Professor Volker Scheid (University of Westminster)

Conference summary

This conference brings together established scholars and junior researchers in East Asian history, history of medicine, sociology, political science, anthropology and gender studies, to present their cutting-edge work on the multiple facets of reproductive science, medicine, and technology in modern China.

Our conference responds to the blossoming of scholarship in recent years on women, sex and reproduction in late-Imperial and modern China. While many studies tell us a great deal about China, we need more research that confront directly how scientific theories and medical expertise move across cultures, between China and different parts of the world. Taking up the continual critical interest in appropriations and disseminations, we investigate the movement and circulation of expertise, personnel, and material culture related to sexuality, reproduction, fertility, childbirth and population around the world. We want to understand how European and American scientific discourses interacted with Chinese discourses, and how so-called “indigenous” ideas concerning sex and reproduction became defined, incorporated or excluded. We analyse some of the long-range networks of historical and contemporary actors engaged in projects of translation and popularisation. In sum, we wish to build upon and go beyond current debates on “knowledge in transit” in the history of science and medicine.

All of the contributors at our conference will mobilise a comparative and global approach to the question of reproduction in China. We aim to produce not only new scholarship on China, but simultaneously new insights on the mechanisms and dynamics of transmissions of reproductive knowledges around the world. Themes covered include: sexology and history of the body in China; conceptualisations of fertility and Chinese medicine; life and biopolitics; childbirth and reproductive technologies; population policies and demographic studies.

Conference programme

Friday 13 July 2012

9.00 - 9.30 Registration and coffee

9.30 - 10.00 Welcome and Introduction

10.00 - 12.00

I. Bodies and sexuality

Howard Chiang (Princeton University and Academia Sinica, Taiwan):
Sex and the making of China: From eunuchs to transsexuals

David Luesink (Indiana University—Purdue University Indianapolis):
The politics of translation and standardisation of terminologies for reproductive anatomy in China

Sun Liying (University of Heidelberg): *Natural breasts (tianru)? Breast-(un)binding, breastfeeding, beauty and body*

Chair: **Helen Schneider** (University of Oxford/Virginia Tech)

12.00 - 14.00

Lunch

14.00 - 16.00

II. Fertility and medicine

Vivienne Lo (University College London): *Aphrodisiacs, conception and yangsheng in China*

Volker Scheid (University of Westminster): *How did the general become a chicken? The ungendering of constraint (yuzheng) in Chinese medicine*

Elisabeth Hsu (University of Oxford): *Qi in reproduction, tactility in childcare, sociality in the house: Revisiting (scientific) concepts of matter*

Chair: **Francesca Bray** (University of Edinburgh)

16.00 - 16.30

Coffee

16.30 - 17.50

III. Life and Biopolitics

Christos Lynteris (University of Cambridge): *China's New Bioeconomic Policy: Reproducing Migrant Bodies in Exception*

Kerstin Klein (Homerton University Hospital): *Reproductive or Productive Value? Embryonic Life at the Intersection of IVF and Stem Cell Research in China*

Chair: **Leon Antonio Rocha** (University of Cambridge/Freie Universität Berlin)

19.00

Conference dinner

Saturday, 14 July 2012

9.30 - 10.00 Registration and coffee

10.00 - 12.00 IV. Reproduction and childbirth

Tina Phillips Johnson (Saint Vincent College): *Imagining childbirth in republican China*

Bridie Andrews (Bentley University): *Birth control in China before the "One Child Policy"*

Wei Wei Cao (Keele University): *Abortion Law, "One Child Policy" and Women's Reproductive Autonomy in Post-Maoist China*

Chair: **Lily Chang** (Magdalene College, Cambridge)

12.00 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 16.00 V. Population and demography

Malcolm Thompson (University of Toronto): *The social costs of births and deaths: Economising reproduction in China, 1912-1937*

Mary Brazelton (Yale University): *Eugenics, ethnic minorities and birth patterns in early communist China: Changing demographics of Yunnan, 1949-1958*

Arunabh Ghosh (Columbia University): *Sripati Chandrasekhar (1918-2001) and China's "Population Problem"*

Chair: **Simon Szreter** (University of Cambridge)

16.00 - 16.30 Coffee

16.30 - 18.00 Roundtable discussion and goodbyes

Chairs/Discussants:

Harriet Evans (University of Westminster)

Christos Lynteris (University of Cambridge)

Helen Schneider (University of Oxford / Virginia Tech)



Biographies

Bridie Andrews is Associate Professor in History at Bentley University and Part-Time Instructor at the New England School of Acupuncture. Among her publications include: *Western Medicine as Contested Knowledge*, co-edited with Andrew Cunningham (Manchester University Press, 1997) and *Medicine and Colonial Identity*, edited with Mary Sutphen (Routledge, 2003).

Website: <https://faculty.bentley.edu/details.asp?uname=bandrews>.

Francesca Bray is Professor of Social Anthropology at the University of Edinburgh. Her publications include: *The Rice Economies: Technology and Development in Asian Societies* (University of California Press, 1994); *Technology and Gender: Fabrics of Power in Late Imperial China* (University of California Press, 1997); *Technology and Society in Ming China (1368-1644)* (American Historical Association 2000); and *Graphics and Text in the Production of Technical Knowledge in China: The Warp and the Weft*, co-edited with Vera Dorofeeva-Lichtmann and Georges Métaillé (Brill, 2008).

Website: http://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/staff/social_anthropology/bray_francesca.

Mary Brazelton is PhD candidate in History at Yale University. Her dissertation studies a gathering of scientists and physicians in Kunming during the Second Sino-Japanese War. She is exploring the ways in which this group's work on vaccination changed the course of public health in southwest China. Her broader research interests include the social history of twentieth-century China and historical connections between science, medicine, and public health.

Website: http://www.yale.edu/history/gradstudents/brazelton_m.html.

Wei Wei Cao received her LLB from Hunan University and LLM from Keele University. She recently finished her PhD, also at Keele, entitled "The Role of Law in Promoting Reproductive Autonomy: English and Chinese Regulatory Models of Abortion". She will begin her lectureship on law in September 2012 at Hunan University. Broadly her research interests are in the fields of socio-legal studies, bioethics, feminism and access to reproductive technologies.

Working email: rainbowvivi@msn.com.



Lily Chang is Henry Lumley Research Fellow in History at Magdalene College, Cambridge, and a Research Associate of the Centre for History and Economics. She received a DPhil from the University of Oxford in 2011 for her thesis, “Contested Childhoods: Law and Social Deviance in Wartime China, 1937-1945”, as part of the Leverhulme Trust funded China’s War with Japan programme.

Website: http://www.histecon.magd.cam.ac.uk/Lily_Chang.htm.

Howard Chiang received his PhD in History from Princeton University. From September 2012 he will be Assistant Professor of Modern Chinese History at University of Warwick. His forthcoming publications include three edited volumes: *Transgender China* (Palgrave Macmillan), *Worlds of Chinese Medicine: Historical Epistemology in Regional and Global Circulations* (University of Rochester Press) and, with Larissa Heinrich, *Queer Sinophone Cultures* (Routledge). He is an editorial board member of *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly* and *Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science*.

Website: http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/people/staff_index/chiang.

Harriet Evans is Professor of Chinese Cultural Studies at the University of Westminster. Her books include: *Women and Sexuality in China: Dominant Discourses of Female Sexuality and Gender Since 1949* (Polity Press, 1997); *Picturing Power in China: Posters of the Cultural Revolution*, co-edited with Stephanie Donald (Rowman and Littlefield, 1999); and *The Subject of Gender: Mothers and Daughters in Urban China* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2007).

Website: <http://www.westminster.ac.uk/about-us/directory/evans-harriet>.

Arunabh Ghosh is PhD candidate in Modern Chinese History at Columbia University. His dissertation is a study of statistics and state-society relations during the first decade of the People’s Republic of China. It explores the ways in which the nascent PRC state approached statistics and how they went about building capacity to “know” the country. His broader research interests include the history of science and social science, social and economic history, and the history of Sino-Indian exchanges in the twentieth century.

Website: <http://history.columbia.edu/graduate/Ghosh.html>.

Elisabeth Hsu is Professor of Anthropology at the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oxford and Fellow of Green Templeton College. Her monographs are *The Transmission of Chinese Medicine* (Cambridge University Press, 1999) and *Pulse Diagnosis in Early Chinese Medicine: The Telling Touch* (Cambridge University Press, 2010), and her many edited volumes include: *Innovation in Chinese Medicine* (Cambridge University Press, 2001); *Wind, Life, Health: Anthropological and Historical Approaches* (Blackwell 2007); and *Plants, Health and Healing: On the Interface of Ethnobotany and Medical Anthropology*, co-edited with Stephen Harris (Berghahn, 2012).

Website: <http://www.isca.ox.ac.uk/about-us/staff/academic/prof-elisabeth-hsu/>.

Kerstin Klein is Research Associate at Homerton University Hospital, NHS Trust, and completed her PhD, entitled “Illiberal Biopolitics, Embryonic Life and the Stem Cell Controversy in China”, under the supervision of Professor Nikolas Rose at the BIOS Centre, London School of Economics in 2010.

Working email: kersklein@yahoo.de.

Vivienne Lo is Senior Lecturer at the Department of History, University College London, and Director of the UCL China Centre for Health and Humanity. Her publications include: *Mediaeval Chinese Medicine: The Dunhuang Medical Manuscripts*, co-edited with Christopher Cullen (Routledge, 2005); *Imagining Chinese Medicine: A Visual History*, co-edited with Wang Shumin (Renmin weisheng chubanshe, 2007); and *Perfect Bodies: Sports, Medicine and Immortality* (British Museum, 2012). She is Founding Editor of *Asian Medicine: Tradition and Modernity* (Brill).

Website: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/history/about_us/academic_staff/dr_v_lo.

David Luesink is Research Associate at Indiana University School of Liberal Arts at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), where he is working on a two-year Luce Foundation funded project, “China and the Globalization of Biomedicine”. This includes equal parts archival development in China and abroad, and support for historical research (see <http://www.ulib.iupui.edu/wmicproject/>). He is defending his PhD dissertation at the Department of History at University of British Columbia in July 2012: “Dissecting Modernity: Anatomy and Power in the Language of Science in China”.

Website: <http://liberalarts.iupui.edu/directory/bio/dluesink>.



Christos Lynteris is Mellon/Newton Postdoctoral Interdisciplinary Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), University of Cambridge. His current project is called “Transregional Flows: The Social Ecology of Pneumonic Plague in Inner Asia”.

Website: <http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/page/1063/dr-christos-lynteris.htm>.

Tina Phillips Johnson is Assistant Professor of History and Director of Chinese Studies at Saint Vincent College. Her most recent publications include *Childbirth in Republican China: Delivering Modernity* (Lexington Books, 2011) and numerous articles on public health and midwifery in China.

Website:

http://www.stvincent.edu/Majors_and_Programs/Majors_and_Programs/History/Tina_Phillips_Johnson/.

Leon Rocha is Research Fellow at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, affiliated with the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge and the Needham Research Institute, Cambridge. He is currently also International Research Fellow at Dahlem Humanities Center, Freie Universität Berlin. His current book-project involves Joseph Needham and the making of the *Science and Civilisation in China* series, and is co-editor (with Robbie Duschinsky) of *Foucault, the Family and Politics* (Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming in 2012).

Website: <http://www.emma.cam.ac.uk/about/fellows/display/?fellow=296>.

Volker Scheid is Professor of East Asian Medicines and Director of the EASTmedicine (East Asian Sciences and Traditions in Medicine) Research Centre at the University of Westminster. His books include: *Chinese Medicine in Contemporary China: Plurality and Synthesis* (Duke University Press, 2002); *Currents of Tradition in Chinese Medicine, 1626-2006* (Eastland Press, 2007); and *Integrating East Asian Medicine into Contemporary Healthcare*, co-edited with Hugh MacPherson (Churchill Livingstone, 2011). Recently he was the recipient of the Wellcome Trust Medical History and Humanities Senior Investigator Award, for the project “Beyond Tradition: Ways of Knowing and Styles of Practice in East Asian Medicine, 1000 to Present”.

Website: <http://www.westminster.ac.uk/about-us/directory/scheid-volker>.

Helen Schneider is Associate Professor in History at Virginia Tech and is currently Research Associate at University of Oxford, as part of the Leverhulme Trust sponsored China's War with Japan programme. Her most recent monograph is entitled *Keeping the Nation's House: Domestic Management and the Making of Modern China* (University of British Columbia Press, 2011).

Website: <http://www.history.vt.edu/faculty/schneider.htm>.

Sun Liying is Assistant Professor at the Institute of Chinese Studies at the University of Heidelberg, where she is also Associate Member at the Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe in a Global Context". Her doctoral dissertation, written under the supervision of Professor Barbara Mittler, is entitled "Body Un/Dis-covered: Luoti, Editorial Agency and Transcultural Production in Chinese Pictorials (1925-1933)".

Website:

<http://www.asia-europe.uni-heidelberg.de/en/people/person/persdetail/sun.html>.

Simon Szreter is Professor of History and Social Policy at University of Cambridge and Fellow of St John's College. His principal publications are: *Fertility, Class and Gender in Britain, 1860-1940* (Cambridge University Press, 1996); *Changing Family Size in England and Wales: Place, Class and Demography, 1891-1911*, co-authored with Eilidh Garrett, Alice Reid and Kevin Schürer (Cambridge University Press, 2001); *Categories and Contexts: Anthropological and Historical Studies in Critical Demography*, co-edited with Hania Sholkamy and A. Dharmalingam (Oxford University Press, 2004); *Health and Wealth: Studies in History and Policy* (University of Rochester Press, 2005); and *Sex Before the Revolution: Intimate Life in England 1918-1963*, with Kate Fisher (Cambridge University Press, 2010).

Website: <http://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/directory/srss@cam.ac.uk>.

Malcolm Thompson teaches Chinese history at the University of Toronto. His research concerns the birth of the Chinese population as a governable object, and its relation to China's incorporation into the capitalist world-economy and world-episteme in the first half of the twentieth century. He is also involved in collaborative projects on Eurasian statecraft from the fifteenth to the eighteenth centuries, and on global economic nationalism in the period 1870–1940. His most recent publication is "Foucault, Fields of Governability, and the Population–Family–Economy Nexus in China" in *History and Theory* 51 (2012), 42–62.



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Welcome to the Alison Richard Building

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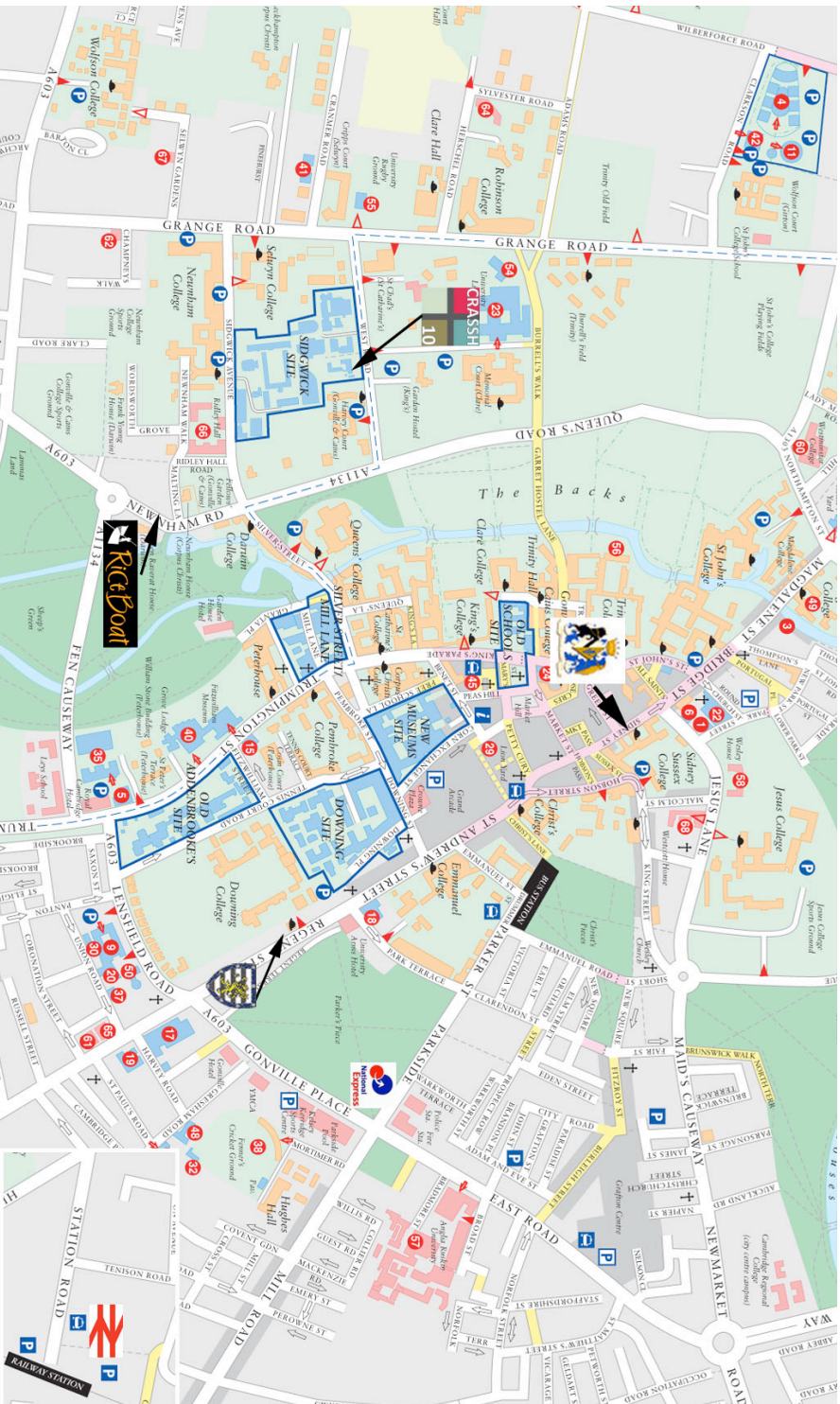
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