Sophia University Institute of Comparative Culture (ICC) Lecture Series

Is Global Governance Bad for East Asian Queers?

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Abstract: The rise of transnational systems and networks of governance and norms since the 1990s and the emergence of the so-called “global civil society” hold out promises of equity for LGBT advocates and marginal groups in East Asia as pride marches, lesbian and gay cultural events, and booming queer Internet communities corroborate the impression that queer Asia may be much more than a concept. Yet, there is a growing retrenchment in the same region as various states take up measures quite inhospitable to queer existence. Christian NGOs in particular are quite aggressively raising social discontent and mobilizing opposition against the growing visibility of gay lifestyles and the equity demands launched by queer activism. The present essay analyzes this new “reign of civility” and its construction of “child protection” as a universal imperative; it also demonstrates how developments in juridification are suturing up global governance, East Asia’s liberal states, and conservative NGOs into a new power bloc that fosters anti-queer and anti-sex climates in the region.

・ No prior Registration necessary.
・ Lecture will be in English with no translation
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Academic Credentials
1992 Doctor of Philosophy, Indiana University, Dept. of English
1981 Doctor of Education, University of Georgia, Dept. of Language Education
1975 Master of Science, University of Pennsylvania, School of Education
1972 Bachelor of Arts, National Chengchi University, Dept. of Western Languages and Literature
Professional Experience
2006-2009 Kwan Fong CRD Research Associate in Cultural Education and Policy, Lingnan University, Hong Kong
2005-2007 President, Cultural Studies Association, Taiwan
2004-present Chair, English Department, National Central University
2003-present Coordinator, UST Cross-Campus Postgraduate Program in Cultural Studies
2003 Visiting Professor, Ochanomizu University, Tokyo, Japan
2001-present Professor, National Central University, Dept. of English
1995-present Founder and Coordinator, Center for the Study of Sexualities, National Central University
1988-2001 Associate Professor, National Central University, Dept. of English
Associate Instructor, Indiana University, Dept. of English
Teaching Assistant, University of Georgia, Dept. of English
Research Assistant, University of Georgia, Dept. of Language Education
Director of Language Lab, Providence University

Honors and Awards
2006-2009 Distinguished Professor, National Central University
Nominee, 1000 Women for Nobel Peace Prize
2004 Outstanding Research Award, National Central University
Woman Who Changed Taiwan, Awarded by United Evening News
1994 Woman of the Year, Awarded by Independence Evening News

Publications
Books
2007 Gender/Sexuality Troubles: Rethinking Taiwanese Gender Politics. (In Japanese)