Increasing numbers of young Japanese women volunteer to perform in pornography; and of women, who seek legal support for performance, have been also the tension, there is neither a clearly administrative office nor beyond legal clauses of obscenity and child protection from sexual Virtually no labor union or advocacy group exists, either. Only the industry drawn greater public attention as a result of media coverage, legal and the Japanese cabinet office’s call for a systematic investigation. Based on my ethnographic presentation explores the tension between consent and coercion in the making of adult entertainment videos. What does it mean for these women to be recruited to perform in adult videos? What do they commodify and how do they withhold themselves as free individuals? This presentation will shed light on the intersection of gender, labor, and subjectivity in the age of the Internet.

Akiko Takeyama is an associate professor of Anthropology and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at the University of Kansas. Her research interests lie in changing gender, sexuality, and class dynamics in contemporary Japan. Her first book, Staged Seduction: Selling Dreams in a Tokyo Host Club, (2016 Stanford University Press) theorizes the commercialization of feelings, emotions, and intimate relationships in Japan’s service-centered economy. Her second book project, tentatively entitled “Affect Economy of Japan’s Adult Video Industry,” will explore human affect—hope, vulnerability, and a sense of self-worth—in the Information Age.

Language: English / No Prior registration necessary / This talk is organized by Professor David Slater (FLA)

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