

# Co-Ed Revolution

**The Female Student in the Japanese New Left**

**Chelsea Szendi Schieder**

**19:15-20:45, July 5th, 2019**

**Room 301, 3F, Building 10, Sophia University**



In this talk, I explore the meanings created by female participation in leftist campus-based protest in the 1960s, as young men and women attended universities together, battled police in the streets together, challenged political institutions, and paralyzed the higher education system. Young women involved in the student movement often imagined that it would offer them a rare chance to engage in activism away from gendered expectations and spaces, such as the home, and to participate as full equals with young men. And yet various dynamics – within the movement and in the interpretation of the movement within the mass media – often foreclosed such an imagination. Here I explore the tensions within this history and in the historiography that often memorializes the New Left as primarily “male” to uncover a gendered dynamic within Japanese postwar politics, and radical politics in particular.

Chelsea Szendi Schieder is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Economics at Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo. She writes about protest, women, violence, and Japan for academic and general audiences. She recently curated and contributed to a special feature for the Spring 2019 issue of *Verge: Studies in Global Asias* on “Contemporary History / Contended History.” Her articles on women and activism have also appeared in *Dissent*, *World Policy Journal*, and *The Asia-Pacific Journal*. Her book on the gendered dynamics in the campus-based New Left in Japan, entitled *Co-Ed Revolution*, is under contract with Duke University Press. She is also engaged in the radical practice of raising a kid.

This talk is organized by Professor David H. Slater (FLA) / Lecture in English / No RSVP required