

Understanding Asia: State-Society Relations

On Seeing (and Not Seeing) Like a State: Surveillance, Care and Control in Asian Migrations

Prof. Dr. Mark Johnson
Goldsmiths, University of London

Monday, 11. November 2019
16.00 - 18.00 c.t.
Room X-C3-107

In this presentation I want to think about the relationship between care and control and consider in particular the ways that the boundaries between them intersect with forms of selective non-surveillance. In doing so I draw on recent ethnographic work, my own and others, in a range of migrant situations that demonstrates how care and control, including practices of surveillance by states and other actors, involve both, 'emergent, mobile and contested meanings, practices and relations' and are 'shaped by conditions of im/mobilities, processes of stratified citizenship and forms of differential inclusion in complex, and often contradictory, ways' (Johnson and Lindquist 2019, 9-10). ■

Prof Mark Johnson (Goldsmiths, University of London) is an anthropologist with interests in gender/sexuality, landscape and material culture, migration and transnationalism. He is author of *Beauty and Power* (Oxford, 1997) and has edited a number of books and special issues including most recently with Johan Lindquist, *Care and Control in Asian Migrations* (Ethnos 2019). He is PI, and co-director, with Dr Suzanne Clisby, of the RCUK GCRF GlobalGRACE (Global Gender and Cultures of Equality, 2017 - 2021) project that investigates the production of cultures of equality in diverse situations across the world. Previous project include, with Dr Deirdre McKay, the UK AHRC Curating Development project (2016-18), investigating Filipino migrants' contributions to development and, with Prof Maggy Lee (HKU) and Dr Mike McCahill (Hull University), 'Big Data, Live Methods and Surveillance Subjectivities (2016-18) exploring perceptions and experiences of surveillance among Filipino and British transnationals in Hong Kong. ■