

Association of Korean Sociologists in America

Spring 2019 Newsletter

Greetings from the AKSA President

Dear AKSA members,

Hope your summer is off to a great start! I am very excited to report that the preparation of the 8th AKSA conference is going well. We have excellent speakers lined up for two plenary sessions covering a variety of issues related to gender, sexuality and Korea, including current Ph.D. students to faculty members in different career stages. I want to note that the organizing committee made efforts to have diverse representations of researchers in terms of topics, research methods, and regions. It might have been a bold move to select a rather specific conference theme of “Sexual Politics, Gender Justice”; the AKSA officers hope that many of you attend the conference to engage in important discussions at this critical time.

Furthermore, we will have Professor Park Gil-Sung, the current President of Korean Sociological Association, give a presidential address on “Social Conflicts and Cohesion in Korea.” For our second research roundtable session, fourteen papers will showcase recent, cutting-edge projects.

Like last year, we are planning to have a networking lunch by career stages and the AKSA committee have planned some thought-provoking discussion questions. Also, we continue to offer a mentoring program that matches graduate students with faculty members. Of course, to make the conference and the mentoring program successful, your attendance is most important. Please take a look at the following pages for detailed information of the conference.

Lastly, I would like to thank this year's AKSA officers, Youngjoo Cha, Hae Yeon Choo, Byungkyu Lee, Chaeyoon Lim, and Juhee Woo, for working tirelessly for AKSA. I would like to give a special thanks to Joong-Hwan Oh and Sejung Sage Yim for helping with local arrangements, and Hae Yeon Choo for her help with creating this newsletter.

I look forward to meeting many of you in New York!

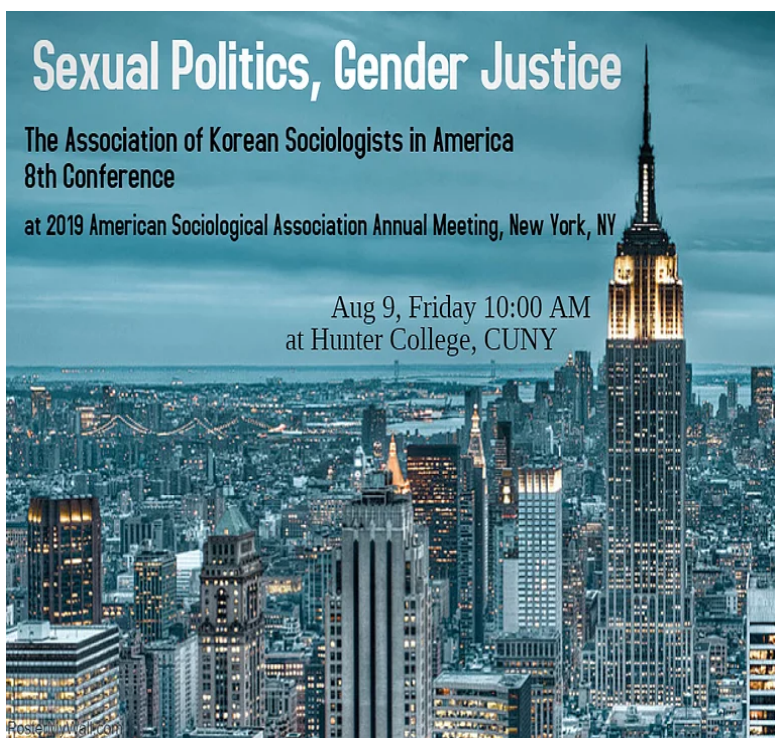
by **Minjeong Kim**

2019 AKSA Annual Conference

For AKSA conference registration, go to our website: <https://koreansociologists.wixsite.com/aksa>

- For early registration (until 6/30/2019): \$35 for students, \$50 for post-doc fellows, \$70 for tenure-track faculty, and \$100 for tenured faculty.
- Regular registration (after 6/30/2019): \$40 for students, \$65 for post-doc fellows, \$100 for tenure-track faculty, and \$150 for tenured faculty.
- The fee includes membership, conference registration, networking lunch, coffee break, and conference dinner.

Please note: It is strongly encouraged to register before the conference date. AKSA will provide a list of registered participants to Hunter College in advance for security purposes and you will be asked to provide your ID at the entrance of the building.



Direction to AKSA Conference, Faculty Dining Room @ Hunter College

Hunter College is located at 68 St. between Lexington and Park avenues.

Subway station: 68 Hunter College Station (Local 6 Train)

Come to the West Building Lounge to check in and get your name tags.

Our Conference will be held in the Faculty Dining Room at the 8th fl.

Take the West Building Escalator up to the 3rd Fl. and then take an elevator to come up to the 8th fl.

2019 AKSA Annual Conference Program

9:45 - **Registration**

10:00 - 10:10 **Welcoming** Minjeong Kim

10:15 - 11:30 **Plenary Session 1: Gender and Sexuality Politics and Social Change**

Moderated by Minjeong Kim

Minwoo Jung (University of Southern California)

"Mobilizing Solidarity: Moral Politics in Gender and Sexual Rights Movements in South Korea"

Nayoung Lee (Chung Ang University)

"Multiple Encountering, Reconstructed Identities: Postcolonial Subjects of 'Comfort Women'"

Hosu Kim (City University of New York, Staten Island)

"Acts to Repair: Reproductive Justice and Memorial Politics in Transnational Adoption Practice"

Organized by Minjeong Kim & Youngjoo Cha

11:30 - 12:50 **Lunch & Networking**

Introduced by Hae Yeon Choo and Chaeyoon Lim

Organized by Byungkyu Lee and Juhee Woo

1:00 - 1:40 **KSA Presidential Address** by **Gil-Sung Park** (Korea University)
"Social Conflict and Cohesion in Korea: An Overarching View"

1:45 - 3:00 Roundtables ([See details on page 5](#))

Organized by Chaeyoon Lim and Hae Yeon Choo

(cont'd on page 4)

3:00 - 4:45 **Plenary Session 2: Understanding Korean Society through Gender Lens**

Moderated by Youngjoo Cha

Yangsook Kim (University of Toronto)

"Feminist entanglements with the neoliberal welfare state: NGOs and domestic workers organizing in South Korea"

Soo-Yeon Yoon (Sonoma State University)

"Men's Gender Role Attitudes, Perceived Fairness in Housework, and Fertility Ideals in South Korea"

Yeo-jin Kim (Kangwon National University)

"Gender Disparity in Cognitive Functioning in Korea: Age Changes and Cohort Differences"

Organized by Youngjoo Cha & Minjeong Kim

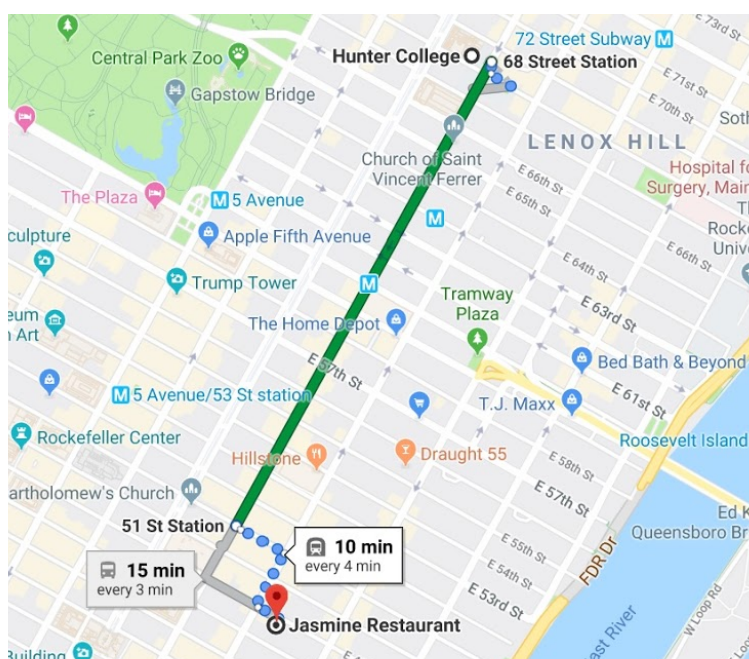
4:45 - 5:00 **Break**

5:00 - 5:30 **Business Meeting**

5:30 - 6:00 To the dinner venue

6:00- **Dinner @ Jasmine Restaurant** [Map](#)

216 E 49th St, New York, NY 10017
b/t 3rd Ave & 2nd Ave Midtown East
(212) 371-2348



AKSA 2019 Roundtable

Organized by

Hae Yeon Choo (Univ of Toronto) and Chaeyoon Lim (Wisconsin-Madison)

Table 1. Gender, Work, and Family in South Korea

Discussant: **Youngjoo Cha** (Indiana-Bloomington)

Yuki Asahina (Univ. of Hawaii-Manoa)

“Gendered Anxiety: Marriage as a Mechanism of Uncertainty among Young Adults in Seoul and Tokyo”

Sejin Um (NYU)

“Why Do Young Women Leave Conglomerates? Gender and the Militarized Workplace in South Korea”

Table 2. Transnational Motherhood

Discussant: **Sehwa Lee** (Albany-SUNY)

Juyeon Park (UMass-Amherst)

“What Makes a Perfect Transnational Mom? Elite Transnational Motherhood of High-achieving Korean Students”

Hee Eun Kwon (UC San Diego)

“How to Raise a Korean: Motherhood in the United Arab Emirates”

Table 3. Asian American Politics

Discussant: **Hyeyoung Kwon** (Indiana-Bloomington)

Ji-won Lee (Albany-SUNY)

“Asian American Race Consciousness and Attitudes toward Race-Conscious Admission”

Beenna Han (Albany-SUNY)

“Race, Gender, and Marital Power in Asian American Interracial Marriages”

(cont'd on page 6)

Table 4. Labor and Work

Discussant: **Yoonkyung Lee** (Univ. of Toronto)

Youngrong Lee (Univ. of Toronto)

“Working Like a Customer: Consenting to Precarious Work in Ride-hailing Platforms”

Dasom Lee (UC San Diego)

“Ethno-national Capitalists: How Do South Korean Employers Understand and Manage Their Migrant Workers?”

Minhyoung Kang (Johns Hopkins)

“Economic and Social Origins of Labor Casualization: A Comparative Case Study of Two Electronics Manufacturers in South Korea”

Table 5. Politics and Society in South Korea

Discussant: **Chaeyoon Lim** (Wisconsin-Madison)

Yewon Andrea Lee (UCLA)

Precarious Workers’ Space Production in the City: Seoul’s Self-employed Tenant Shopkeepers’ Organizing and their Workers’ Power

Pyong Gap Min (CUNY)

“Korean Dailies’ Labelling of U.S. Camp-Town Prostitutes as ‘Wianbu’ and Its Negative Consequences”

Table 6. Inequality and Stratification

Discussant: **Hyeyoung Woo** (Portland State Univ.)

Youngjoon Bae (UMass-Amherst)

“Weight Loss in Elderly Men and Women: Household Size and Social Connectedness”

Hyungjun Suh (Univ. of Arizona)

“Antecedents of Housing Status: A Case Study of South Korean Newlyweds in 2014-2016”

Byeongdon Oh and **ChangHwan Kim** (Univ. of Kansas)

“Do College Funding Sources Matter for the Advanced Degree Attainment?”

AKSA Member News

Job Placement and Promotion

Seung-won Choi (Michigan State University) will join the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work at Texas Tech University as an Assistant Professor in fall 2019.

Hyejeong Jo (University of Pennsylvania) started her position as Senior Researcher at the Samsung Economic Research Institute.

Gwoon Jung is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Kyung Hee University in Seoul, South Korea, starting from March 2019.

Jaeeun Kim has been promoted to Associate Professor of Sociology with tenure at the University of Michigan.

Yewon Andrea Lee (UCLA) will join the Centre for the Study of Korea at the University of Toronto as a Korea Foundation postdoctoral fellow in Fall 2019.

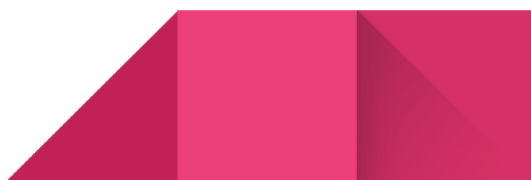
Eunsil Oh (Harvard) will join the Department of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2019.

Eun Kyong Shin will begin her position as Assistant Professor of Sociology at Korea University in Fall 2019.

Honor

Paul Chang (Harvard) was selected as the Joy Foundation Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Hae Yeon Choo (Univ. of Toronto) has received honorable mention from the Race, Gender, Class section of the ASA for her 2016 article "In the Shadow of Working Men: Gendered Labor and Migrant Rights in South Korea." *Qualitative Sociology*, 29(4): 353-373.



Jaeeun Kim (Univ. of Michigan) has received an article award from the Theory section of the ASA for her 2018 article "Migration-facilitating Capital: A Bourdieusian Theory of International Migration." *Sociological Theory* 36.3: 262-288.

Pyong Gap Min (CUNY) has received the Contribution to the Field Award from the ASA's Asia and Asian American Section.

Choonhee Woo (UMass-Amherst) received the Mark Fellowship for Global Sociology for her dissertation field research on the structural vulnerability of Cambodian migrant farmworkers who have returned from migrant work in South Korea.

Publications

Brinton, Mary, and Eunsil Oh. Forthcoming (July 2019). "Babies, Work, or Both? The Interdependence of Women's Employment and Fertility in East Asia." *American Journal of Sociology*.

Jung, Gowoon. 2018. Review of *Cross-National Public Opinion about Homosexuality: Examining Attitudes across the Globe* by Amy Adamczyk. *Sociological Inquiry* 88(4): 752-754.

Jung, Gowoon. 2019. "Reviews: Tradition and Innovation." *International Sociology Review* 34(2): 197-202

Kim, Minjeong and Rachelle J. Brunn-Bevel. 2019. "Hollywood's Global Expansion and Racialized Film Industry." *Humanity & Society* <https://doi.org/10.1177/0160597619832045>

Lee, Se Hwa. 2019. "'I Am Still Close to My Child': Middle-Class Korean Wild Geese Fathers' Responsible and Intimate Fatherhood in a Transnational Context." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2019.1573662>.

Phillips, Joe and Joseph Yi*. 2019. "Queer Communities and Activism in South Korea: Center-Periphery Currents." *Journal of Homosexuality*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00918369.2019.1616432>

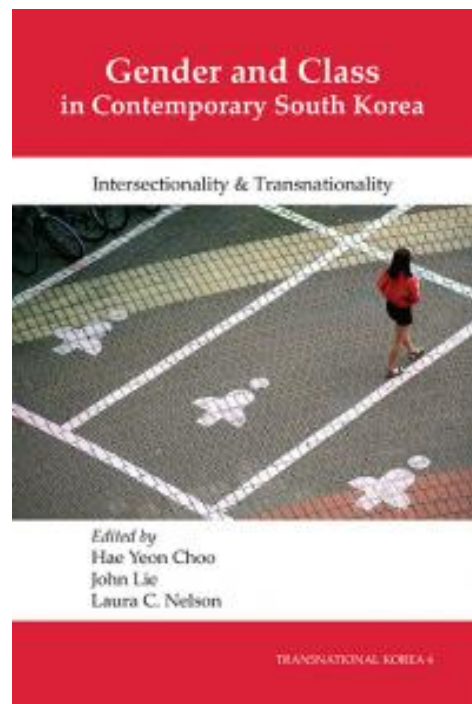
Yi, Joseph and Gowoon Jung. 2019. "Korean Media Discourse on International Education." *Globalisation, Societies and Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14767724.2019.1575188>

Yi, Joseph and Joe Phillips. 2019. "[Religions and Politics of Asian Pacific Americans](#)." *Society* 56(1), 59-62

Yi, Joseph and Joe Phillips. 2018. "[Christian Case for Engaging North Korea](#)." *Pacific Affairs* 91(3): 523-537.

Yi, Joseph, Gowoon Jung, Saul Serna Segura, Joe Phillips*, and Jerry Park. 2018. "[Gay Seouls: Expanding Religious Spaces for Non-Heterosexuals in South Korea](#)." *Journal of Homosexuality* 65(11): 1457-1483.

Choo, Hae Yeon, John Lie and Laura Nelson. 2019. *Gender, Class, and Contemporary South Korea: Intersectionality and Transnationality*. Berkeley, CA: Institute for East Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley.

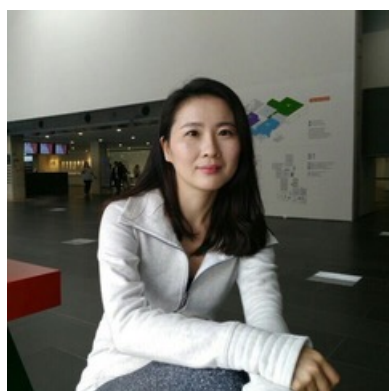


Call for AKSA Student Representative Nominations

Each year, AKSA elects a student representative to serve on the AKSA Committee. In order to be eligible, one must be a student member of the AKSA and in a graduate program in North America. If you are interested in serving as a student representative for 2019-2020, **please email your nomination to koreansociologists@gmail.com and mkim@sdsu.edu with a short introduction by July 19, 2019.**

AKSA Member Highlights

On the Market



Yang-Sook Kim is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of Toronto. Her scholarship centers on how subordinated people make sense of, navigate and resist the deepening inequalities in the context of neoliberal globalization. Informed by feminist scholarship on the welfare regime, international migration and ethnicity, her dissertation project examines how unequally-positioned groups of marginalized women workers navigate the intensifying precarity with a comparative case study of care sectors in South Korea and the United States. A part of the project, which was published in *Critical Sociology* in 2018, analyzes how South Korea-born and

Korean-Chinese migrant workers deploy gender and ethnicity, or, *Koreanness*, in their labour market strategies that center on what she calls “boundary marking” processes along the ethnic line. Contrasting state-certified South Korea-born workers’ narratives of their self-worth as professional eldercare specialists to informal Korean-Chinese workers’ whole-hearted care narratives, she argues that the hierarchies between similar yet unequally positioned groups of marginalized women workers are perpetuated through the micro-politics of care that is shaped by the nexus of migration and welfare regimes. Another piece from her dissertation was published in *Political Power and Social Theory* in 2018. Drawing on an extensive case study of the National House Manager Cooperative, a domestic workers’ cooperative organized by the Korean Women Workers’ Association, she and the co-author Jennifer Jihye Chun examine the real and thorny constraints that the KWWA faced in organizing marginalized women workers. Eschewing the overly simple depiction of the “dangerous liaison” between feminism and neoliberalism in previous scholarship, they call for the need to evaluate critically the political horizons of grassroots feminist politics.



Yewon Andrea Lee is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is scheduled to complete her degree in Summer 2019 and will join the University of Toronto as a Korea Foundation postdoctoral fellow in

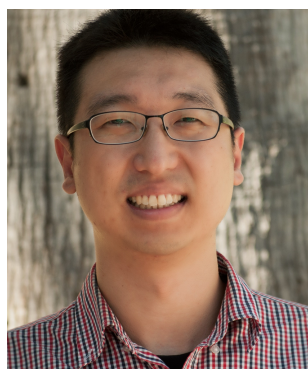
Fall 2019. As an urban ethnographer and political sociologist, she is interested in how speculative real estate interests increasingly dictate the shapes and characters of urban landscapes and how, in response, ordinary people organize to preserve their ways of living. Her dissertation, *Precarious Workers in the Speculative City: The Untold Gentrification Story of Tenant Shopkeepers' Displacement and Resistance in Seoul*, examines tenant shopkeepers in Seoul, Korea, a group whose life chances have been critically compromised by gentrification in recent years. By focusing on the previously overlooked tenant shopkeepers who are waging creative collective actions to protect their rights to their shops, the dissertation explores the question of when and how the precarity caused by tenants' lack of ownership over their shops—a crucial means of production for tenant workers—can activate collective identity formation. A manuscript that emerged from this dissertation is currently Conditional Accept at *Critical Sociology* and has received Honorable Mention in the 2019 CBSM Mayer N. Zald Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Graduate Student Paper Award competition.



Misun Lim is a Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow at European University Institute in Florence, Italy. Her research interests include family, gender inequality in labor markets, and work-family policies. Much of her work focuses on the connection between changing family structures and economic inequalities in the United States and across Europe. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2019. Her dissertation, 'Motherhood Wage Penalty Across Life Course and Cohorts,' examines the effect of

motherhood on earnings across women's life course and between two subsequent cohorts. This project investigates long-term effects of motherhood on a woman's wages, the transition patterns to motherhood among millennials, and different motherhood wage penalties between baby boomers and millennials. She has published (with Michelle Budig) an article on the effect of marriage and the degrees of household specialization on wages in the *Journal of Marriage and Family*. Another area of her research studies racial and gender disparities in the wage returns for educational attainment. She has also written (with Joya Misra) on the topic of work/life balance for the *Oxford Bibliographies*.

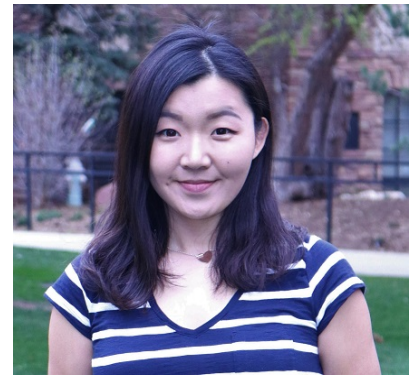
Juyeon Park is a doctoral candidate in the University of Massachusetts Amherst Department of Sociology. Much of her work examines intersectional impacts of gender and class on parenting/parenthood, family arrangements, work and occupations, and migration strategies of Asian women across class lines and citizenships. Her dissertation, *Raising Global Elites from a Distance: Transnational Parenting of South Korean Students*, provides a qualitative analysis of the transnational parenting of Korean students at elite U.S. colleges and the consequential class reproduction. A part of the dissertation, “Public Fathering, Private Mothering: Gendered Transnational Parenting and Class Reproduction among Elite Korean Students,” was published in *Gender & Society* in 2018. With Miliann Kang and Hye Jun Park, she also recently published “Teachers as Good Mothers, Mothers as Good Teachers: Functional and Ideological Work-Family Alignment in the South Korean Teaching Profession” in *Gender, Work & Organization* (forthcoming).



Hyungjun Suh is a Ph.D. candidate in sociology at the University of Arizona. His research interests range from stratification/ inequality, urban sociology, housing status, housing regimes, neighborhood effects, and social capital. He is specialized in quantitative data analyses, especially multilevel modeling, structural equation modeling, and longitudinal modeling, and has experiences analyzing large cross-national social survey data with a panel design. He has published articles in *Social Science Quarterly*, *Journal of Religion and Health*, *Development and Society*, and *Korean Journal of Social Policy*. His dissertation, titled “Antecedents and Consequences of Housing Status across Housing Regimes,” explores 1) the link between housing status and regime support moderated by housing regime characteristics across European countries using multilevel modeling, 2) the relationship between homeownership and attitudinal social capital in six European countries using fixed-effect modeling, and 3) antecedents of housing status in South Korea during 2014-2016 using panel data and longitudinal modeling. Findings of this dissertation as a whole contribute to sociological and housing studies in several ways. First, this dissertation constructs the concept of housing status having multiple dimensions including tenure, property rights, housing quantity, quality, and housing environment, beyond the simple dichotomy of homeowners and non-owners. Second, beyond investigating whether housing status matters or

not, this study will reveal how housing status matters through various factors such as residential stability, family structure, and psychological aspects. Third, this study will demonstrate the importance of considering norms and institutions in the housing regime in which the housing status effect varies. Finally, this study will contribute to the generalization of the findings in previous studies by incorporating post-Soviet countries and an East Asian country.

Juhee Woo is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Her research interests broadly include social inequality, health disparities, and intersectionality. Juhee's mixed-methods dissertation investigates racial/ethnic disparities in cigarette smoking, focusing on African American women. The quantitative chapters of her dissertation examine smoking trajectories from adolescence to middle adulthood for different racial/ethnic groups, segregated by gender, and factors that may explain the racial/ethnic differences in smoking trajectories. The qualitative chapters explore how gender, race, socioeconomic status, and social/cultural contexts affect smoking behaviors of African American women.



Joseph Yi (political science, Hanyang University) studies the development of individual liberty in various settings, from mature democracies (e.g., USA) to young democracies (South Korea) to closed autocracies (North Korea); and communication and cooperation across social groups and countries, especially in East Asia and North America. Since 2013, Yi has published 18 SSCI-indexed or peer reviewed journal articles (e.g., *Globalisation, Societies and Education*, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Journal of Homosexuality*, *Journal for Scientific Study of Religion*, *Pacific Affairs*, *Political Quarterly*, *PS: Political Science & Politics*, *Review of Religious Research*, *Society*). Email: joyichicago@yahoo.com Site: <https://hanyang.academia.edu/JosephYi>

Financial Report

Income and Expenses (as of 12/31/2018)

Income		Expense/ Budget	
Description	Amount	Description	Amount
Previous balance	4034.20	Student representative travel grant 2017	300.00
		Student representative travel grant 2018	300.00
Registration fees and donation via Paypal	2312.08	Graduate student paper prize	250.00
Registration fees collected at site	70.00	Graduate student paper award plaques	102.85
Korean Sociological Association	1000.00		
		<u>2018 AKSA meeting</u>	
U Penn Graduate Association	500.00	Room & equipment	493.00
Donation by Hyunjoon Park for room and mic rental fees	493.00	Tables and chairs (a)	425.00
		Lunch & coffee break	500.00
		Dinner	
		\$28.95 x 55	1592.25

		Staff (\$225 x 2)	450.00
		Equipment	100.00
		Paper goods	52.25
		Gratuity	150.00
		Delivery fee	15.00
		Beverage	155.97
		Wine & dessert	197.47
		Reimbursement for office supplies (name tags, note pads, pens, markers, files)	106.98
		Incoming wire fee (for KSA donation)	15.00
		Refund of registration fees	50.00
Total (A)	8409.28	Total (B)	5255.77
Balance (C=A-B)			3,153.51

Acknowledgement

In addition to the **Korean Sociological Association** whose continuing support for AKSA has been invaluable, AKSA would like to express special thanks to Professors **Youngjoo Cha, Paul Chang, Chioun Lee, Chaeyoon Lim, Sojung Lim, Hyunjoon Park, and Hyeyoung Woo** for their generous support for AKSA in the past year (2018). With appreciation!



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NEW SERIES: KOREAN COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE WORLD

SERIES EDITOR:

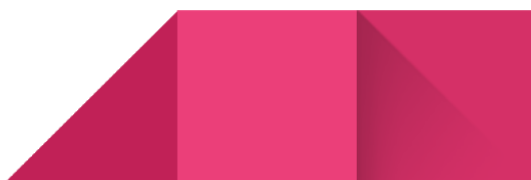
Joong-Hwan Oh, Hunter College, City University of New York

ABOUT THE SERIES:

Korean Communities across the World publishes works that address aspects of (a) the Korean American community, (b) Korean society, (c) the Korean communities in other foreign lands, or (d) transnational Korean communities. In the field of (a) the Korean American community, this series welcomes contributions involving concepts such as Americanization, pluralism, social mobility, migration/immigration, social networks, social institutions, social capital, racism/discrimination, settlement, identity, or politics, as well as a specific topic related to family/marriage, gender roles, generations, work, education, culture, citizenship, health, ethnic community, housing, ethnic identity, racial relations, social justice, social policy, and political views, among others. In the field of (b) Korean society, this series embraces scholarship on current issues such as gender roles, age/aging, low fertility, immigration, urbanization, gentrification, economic inequality, high youth unemployment, sexuality, democracy, political power, social injustice, the nation's educational problems, social welfare, capitalism, consumerism, labor, health, housing, crime, environmental degradation, and the social life in the digital age and its impacts, among others. Contributors in the field of (c) Korean communities in other foreign lands are encouraged to submit works that expand our understanding about the formation, vicissitudes, and major issues of an ethnic Korean community outside of South Korea and the United States, such as cultural or linguistic retention, ethnic identity, assimilation, settlement patterns, citizenship, economic activities, family relations, social mobility, and racism/discrimination. Lastly, contributions relating to (d) transnational Korean communities may touch upon transnational connectivity in family, economy/finance, politics, culture, technology, social institutions, and people.

TO SUBMIT A BOOK PROPOSAL:

Please submit proposals by email to Lexington editor Ms. Courtney Lachapelle Morales (cmorales@rowman.com). See the following page for proposal guidelines.



Proposal Guidelines:

To submit a manuscript for consideration by Lexington Books, please send:

- Ô a prospectus (see below for details)
- Ô a detailed table of contents
- Ô one or two sample chapters
- Ô your curriculum vitae

If you are proposing a contributed volume, please include titles, affiliations, and brief resumes for each of the contributors. The prospectus should include:

1. A description of the book, describing the core themes, arguments, issues, goals, and/or topics of the work, what makes it unique, what questions it seeks to answer, and why you are qualified to write it. (2–5 pages)
2. A description of your target audience (undergraduate or graduate students? scholars? professionals?).
3. An analysis of competing or similar books (including publishers and dates), indicating distinctive and original elements of your project that set it apart from these other works.
4. A list of courses in which your book might be used as a text or supplementary text, indicating the course level at which this book may be used.
5. An indication of whether any part of your manuscript has been published previously, and if it is a doctoral dissertation, what changes you are proposing to prepare it for publication.
6. The length of the manuscript either as a word count or a page count (12-point type on double-spaced 8 1/2" by 11" pages). Will there be figures, tables, or other non-text material, and, if so, approximately how many? If the text is not complete, please still estimate its final length, not including the non-text material.
7. If the manuscript is not complete, an estimation of when it will be finished. Is there a particular date by which you hope the book will be published (due to a historical anniversary, conference, etc.?)
8. The names of four to seven respected scholars in your field with whom you have no personal or professional relationship. Include their titles, affiliations, e-mail addresses, and/or mailing addresses.
9. An indication of whether the manuscript is under consideration by other publishers.

***Please do not send your entire manuscript. An acquisitions editor will contact you to request additional materials. ***