

Friday, September 28 | LUCE AUDITORIUM

34 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven CT 06511

9:00 am – 9:15 am

Conference Welcome and Introduction,
Marcia C. Inhorn and **Nancy J. Smith-Hefner**

Middle East (Chair, Eda Pepi, Yale U)

9:15 am – 9:30 am

Diane Singerman (American U), “Waithood: Gender, Education, and Global Delays in Marriage in the Middle East”

9:30 am – 9:45 am

Fida Adely (Georgetown U), “In the Long Run: The Prospects of Staying Single in Amman, Jordan”

9:45 am – 10:00 am

Mehrdad Babadi (Boston U), “Reasons behind the Doubt and Pessimistic Attitudes toward Marriage among Emerging Adults in Urban Iran”

10:00 am -10:15 am (Q&A Discussion)

10:15 am – 10:45 am (Coffee Break)

Africa (Chair, Louisa Lombard, Yale U)

10:45 am – 11:00 am

Adeline Masquelier (Tulane U), “Delayed Adulthood, Romantic Aspirations, and the Work of Waiting in Niger”

11:00 am – 11:15 am

Kristen McLean (Yale U), “When ‘Youthmen’ Become Fathers: Gender, Intimacy, and Family Formation in Post-conflict Sierra Leone”

11:15 am – 11:30 am

Aalyia Sadruddin (MIT), “Negotiating ‘Womanhood’: Negotiating Womanhood: Transformations in Marriage, Education, and Gender in Urban Rwanda

11:30 am – 11:45 am (Q&A Discussion)

Asia (Chair, Catherine Panter-Brick, Yale U)

11:45 am - 12:00 pm

Matthew Gutmann (Brown U), “Favorite Sons and Leftover Daughters: Men, Marriage, and Gender Equality in China”

12:00 pm – 12:15 pm

Zachary Howlett (Yale-NUS College), “Counterfeit Boyfriends and Ghost Brides: Education, Rural-to-Urban Migration, and Delayed Marriage in Contemporary China”

12:15 pm – 12:30 pm

Nancy J. Smith Hefner (Boston U), “Too Educated to Marry? Muslim Women and Delayed Marriage in Indonesia”

12:30 pm – 12:45 pm (Q&A Discussion)

BREAK

Latin America and the Caribbean (Chair, Claudia Vaggia, Yale U)

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Brendan Jamal Thornton (U North Carolina, Chapel Hill), “Conjugal Conundrums: Conversion and Conflict in the Contemporary Caribbean”

2:15 pm – 2:30 pm

Elyse Ona Singer (U Oklahoma), “Proyectos de Vida: Abortion Decisions, Personal Aspiration, and the Postponement of Motherhood in Mexico City”

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Nicole Berry (Simon Fraser U), “Gender and State/ Indigenous Relations in Sololá, Guatemala: Turning an Institutional Lens on Waithood”

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm (Q&A Discussion)

Euro-America (Chair, Rene Almeling, Yale U)

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm

Manon Vialle (CNRS Marseille), “French Norms and Practices of ART in the Context of Increasing Age-related Female Infertility”

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm

Beatriz San Román (Autonomous U Barcelona), “From Biology to Nurture and the Other Way Around: Biocultural Entanglements in Adoption and ART in Spain”

3:30 pm – 3:45 pm

Marcia C. Inhorn (Yale U), “The Egg Freezing Revolution? Gender, Education, and Reproductive Waithood in America”

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm (Q&A Discussion)

4:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Conference Wrap-Up

Yale MACMILLAN CENTER



Photo Credit: Dr. Idris Thaha, Indonesia

Waithood: Gender, Education, and Global Delays in Marriage

In many areas of the world, a silent revolution is taking place with regard to women, education, and age at first marriage. As educational opportunities have become more widely available, young women have taken advantage of those opportunities and have in many cases begun to surpass the accomplishments of their male peers. The most striking consequence of this ongoing social transformation is a significantly later age at first marriage for women – or even non-marriage among highly educated women. This conference explores the emerging global phenomenon of “waithood”—or widespread marriage delays, first identified by political scientist Diane Singerman in Egypt—and how waithood is now playing out in almost every region of the world.

Supported by the Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund, MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies; Council on Middle East Studies; Council on East Asian Studies; Council on Southeast Asian Studies; Council on Latin American and Iberian Studies; European Studies Council; Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; and Department of Anthropology, Yale University