Contemporary Languages of Assertion: Mapping the (new) Political Student in Indian Universities

This presentation will focus on contemporary student mobilizations across university campuses in India. By mapping some of these moments, the attempt will be to argue that a new political citizen is asserted. The ways in which questions of access to and reclaiming of public spaces have been posed through these movements, re-shapes gendered and caste based political arrangements in institutions of higher learning.

'Flexible' Caste Boundaries: Cross-regional Marriage as Mixed Marriage in Rural North India

Based on ethnographic fieldwork in a village in the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, the paper will focuses on cross-regional marriage (those that cross caste, linguistic and state boundaries and entail long-distance migration) as mixed marriage. It queries the ‘acceptance’ of women sought beyond traditional boundaries of caste in a context where caste endogamy is the norm and breaches are otherwise not tolerated.

Reproduction in the Market: Understanding Commercial Surrogacy in India

This presentation uses fieldwork in Delhi and Mumbai to focus on the phenomenon of commercial surrogacy, thriving in India until it was banned in 2016. Arguably, as yet another illustration of ‘outsourcing’, it presents a site to engage with questions of women’s work and reproduction in a globalised market.

Cross-examining Partition Fiction and the Forgotten History of Women

In the light of fictions written in the aftermath of Partition, in the Heat of Fratricide (1947-1950) as Jason Francisco writes, I wish to examine the paradoxes of literature in the construction of a narrative of Partition and in the restitution of an history of women.

All sessions do take place here: ISEK, Andreasstrasse 15, Room AND 3.46 ; 4.15 - 6 pm.