

The Emergence of Gendered Power Structures (Marburg, 23–25 Nov 22)

Pilipps-Universität Marburg and Herder-Institute Marburg, Nov 23–25, 2022

Registration deadline: Nov 6, 2022

Dorothee Beck

The Emergence of Gendered Power Structures since Early Modern Times: Practices, Norms, Media.

The conference aims at analysing configurations of gendered power relations from the early modern era to the present from an interdisciplinary perspective. The focus will be on these relations' transformations and how they have been renegotiated and revised regarding the interwoven analytical levels of medialization, normative frames, and social practices. Correlations between transformation and change will be examined as well as formations of traditions and the development of historicizing narratives employed to legitimize gendered relations of power, including the justification of state power through naturalizing gender discourses.

Since the late 15th century, discursive and social practices as well as media representations of power, sovereignty, and gender can be observed in relation to contemporary processes of early state formation, which aim at a specific consolidation and expansion of hierarchical gender orders. Throughout the centuries, strategies to legitimize specific power relations have employed above all historically grown traditions in their argumentation, the powerful impact of which allegedly shows in the *longue durée*. An analytical focus on continuities, however, threatens to obscure historical ruptures as well as reinterpretations and reframings of earlier media representations. Inconsistencies and conflicts between norms and social practices are also likely to fall from view. Therefore, the interdisciplinary research network »Gender, Power Relations, and the State« in cooperation with the Centre for Gender Studies and Feminist Future Studies (UMR) and the Centre for Media and Interactivity (JLU Gießen) will host an international and interdisciplinary two-day conference in Marburg/Germany on November 23-25, 2022, to examine the power relations at work in the construction, dissemination, and persistence of such narratives and to analyse their interrelations with social practices, processes of standardization, and media representations.

Titled »The Emergence of Gendered Power Structures since Early Modern Times: Practices, Norms, Media«, the conference aims to study the interdependent web of tensions between gender, power relations, and the state across centuries. Transformations, renegotiations, and revisions in specific configurations of gendered power will be brought into focus. The intersection of institutionalizations of state power with naturalizing gender discourses specific to the respective epochs will be problematized from the angles of manifold disciplinary approaches to gender studies. In doing so, a progress- and modernization-oriented master narrative of increasing gender equality will be confronted with the limitations and closures of a scope of opportunities and

possibilities to women through processes of formalization and legalization in the course of state formation until the twenty-first century. Such an interdisciplinary and trans-epochal merging and further developing of existing analytical approaches and perspectives has not yet been attempted. The organizers assume that such an interdisciplinary and historically profound synopsis along the analytical levels of social practices, normative frames, and medializations will bring to light distinct continuities, either in the form of an 'invention of tradition' (Hobsbawm 2019) which facilitates the legitimization of (transformed) social practices, or in the form of constructions of continuities on the level of media representations of gendered power relations.

Program

Wednesday, November 23, 2022

17:30 Opening Reception

18:00 – 18:30 Welcome

18:30 – 19:30 Keynote Prof. Dr. Myra Marx Ferree: Contested modernity in family gender regimes

Thursday, November 24, 2022

09:00 – 10:00 Keynote Prof. Dr. Helen Watanabe-O'Kelly

10:15 – 11:45 Panel 1 – Medialization of Gendered Rule in the Early Modern Period

- Dr. Péter Bokody (Art History): Political Control and Sexual Violence in Italian Painting Before 1500
- Prof. Dr. Hania Siebenpfeiffer (Modern German Literature): The Queen' medialized body, or Maria Stuart on the Early Modern German stage
- Aleksandra Matczyńska (Art History): Visual representations of power and prestige of the noble family in artistic commissions of women in the early 17th century. Silesia and Saxony in comparison

Chair / Discussant: Prof. Dr. Sigrid Ruby, Prof. Dr. Inken Schmidt-Voges

12:00 – 13:30 Panel 2 – Imaginations of Female Presidency in TV Series

- Prof. Dr. Katja Kanzler (American Studies): Veep: Presidential Power, Gender, and Modes of Televisual Imagination
- Prof. Dr. Rirhandu Mageza-Barthel (Political Science): ›Black Earth Rising‹: Fictional Female Presidency in Rwanda
- Prof. Dr. Sarah Sepulchre (Communication Studies): Female presidents, politicians like any other? Analysis of the gendered stereotypes conveyed in the French political series L'Etat de Grace, Les hommes de l'ombre, Baron noir

Chair: Dr. Jutta Hergenhan; Discussant: Prof. Dr. Carmen Birkle

14:30 – 15:30 Keynote Prof. Dr. Claudia Ulbrich

15:45 – 17:15 Panel 3 – Entangling Conceptions of ›Weak Rule‹ and ›Femininity‹ from Shakespeare Plays to Presidential Representation

- Dr. Imke Lichterfeld (Theatre Studies): Negotiating the ›weak king dilemma‹
- Prof. Dr. Greta Olson (American Studies): Kamala Harris's Rupture and Continuation of U.S. American Vice-Presidential Traditions
- Lea Reiff (Modern German Literature): ›The Shadow of a King‹: Power and Precarious Masculinities in Plays by Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach and Friedrich Schiller

Chair / Discussant: Prof. Dr. Hania Siebenpfeiffer, Prof. Dr. Inken Schmidt-Voges

18:00 – 19:30 Panel 4 – Subalternity and Epistemic Violence

- Dr. Richard Herzog (History): Matrilineality and Native Female Rulership as Told by Nahua Historians of Early Colonial Mexico
 - Kate McGregor (History): There is only one way to be pretty!« Racialized Beauty Norms in German Samoa, 1906-1916
 - Dr. Christine Klapeer (Political Science): Homodevelopmentalism as epistemic violence? Examining German trans/national LGBTIQ* politics from a queer and post-/decolonial perspective
- Chair: Prof. Dr. Isabel Heinemann / Discussant: Dr. Jutta Hergenhan

Friday, November 25, 2022

09:00 – 10:00 Keynote Prof. Dr. Birgit Sauer: The State as an Intersectional and Gendered Relation of Violence

10:15 – 11:45 Panel 5 – Sexuality, Violence, and the State: Norms and Regulations

- Justine Semmens, PhD (History): State, Society, and Symbiosis: Men's honour, women's virtue, and adultery prosecution in early modern France
- Prof. Dr. Julia König (Education Studies): Imperial Fantasies and the Constitution of the White Subject Sexualized Gender Power Structures in Colonial Picture Postcards around 1900
- Dr. Jane Freeland (Contemporary History): Domestic Violence Shelters in (divided) Berlin: 1976 and 1989/90 in Comparison

Chair: Prof. Dr. Helga Krüger-Kirn; Discussant: Prof. Dr. Isabel Heinemann

12:00 – 13:30 Panel 6 – Women as Newly Emergent Political Actors

- Vincent Dold (History): The Second Revolutionary? Gendered Revolutionary Scripts and Their Inherent Power Inequalities in the German Socialist Movement from 1848 to 1918
- Prof. Dr. Carla Hoetink and Team (History): Gender and parliament: an exploration of sources, methods and concepts for research into the gendered power structures of the Dutch States-General
- N.N.

Chair: Dr. Martin Göllnitz, Discussant: PD Dr. Heidi Hein-Kircher

14:00 – 15:30 Final Discussion

Application: gms@uni-marburg.de

Deadline: 06.11.2022.

Participation in person is limited. Applications are accepted in chronological order; online participation is possible.

Reference:

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