

## **Society, Religion and Multiple Gender Cultures: Symposium**

Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

ZiF Bielefeld, Plenary Hall

How can we conceive varying social configurations of gender realities in an epistemologically adequate way – that is: how can historical, cultural, social, political and religious specificities be analyzed without gendered and other reifications? How are gender cultures structured, and how are they connected within (global) power relations? And how can the transnational and global contestations of gender rights be addressed and challenged without ignoring locally specific configurations?

Heidemarie Winkel's work on thinking religion sociologically and on the entanglements of Eurocentric notions of modernity, religion and gender orders has contributed significantly to shedding light on the multifaceted realities of gendered life and the global variety of gendered socialities and hierarchically entangled social histories. Her reflections on Plural Modernities and Postcolonial Sociology have a strong impact on research in transcultural gender sociology. With putting emphasis on knowledge production and notions of equality and gender justice, i.e. on the shifting and negotiation of gender relations in Arab societies and on gender as a colonial knowledge category, she goes beyond a (gender) sociology anchored in the national container and challenges its foundations, which are often taken for granted.

The symposium provides deeper insights into these aspects and opens up space for intense discussions on the interrelations between gender orders, religious orders and global, colonial, structures of inequality in light of the current global contestations of gender rights. It is organized to celebrate Heidemarie Winkel's birthday and to initiate substantive scientific reflections on the topics and questions that have been of concern to Heidemarie Winkel and which inform her work. At the same time, these are the topics that are at the centre of current feminist debates.

***Please register for the Symposium by November, 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at: [sekretariat.scheele@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:sekretariat.scheele@uni-bielefeld.de) (Sabine Adam)***

### **Programme**

**12:00**

#### **Welcome Notes**

Ina Kerner, Julia Roth, Alexandra Scheele (Organizers)

Oliver Flügel-Martinsen (Dean of the Faculty of Sociology)

Tomke König (Managing Director of IZG and Speaker of the RTG 2650 Experiencing Gender)

**12:45 – 15:00**

**Society and Religion – Relations, Conflicts and Perspectives**

Fatima Sadiqi (Fez/Doha): Undoing the Package Picture of Women's and Gender Studies in Today's MENA - Religion and 'Modernity' (*online*)

Gabriele Dietze (Berlin): Affective Polarization via Abortion in American Fundamentalism

Viola Raheb (Wien): Giving Voice to Middle Eastern Women

*Moderation: Ina Kerner (Koblenz)*

**15:00-15:30**

Coffee Break

**15:30-18:00**

**Plural Modernities, Feminisms and Post-Colonial Perspectives**

Magdalena Suerbaum (Bielefeld): On the Translatability of Gendered Experiences in Ethnographic Encounters

Angelika Pofert (Dortmund): Plural Modernities, Multiple Feminisms and the Cosmopolitics of Interpretation

Manuela Boatcă (Freiburg): Multiplicity and its Discontents. On Pluralizing Europes, Modernities, and Gender Cultures

*Moderation: Julia Roth (Bielefeld)*

**18:00-19:30**

**Why Gender? Contested Rights, Illiberal Democracies and Authoritarian Threats. Roundtable.**

Andrea Petó (Wien/Malmö), Lígia Fabris (online; New Haven), Birgit Sauer (Wien)

*Moderation: Alexandra Scheele (Bielefeld)*

**19:30**

**Reception and Dinner at ZiF**

*This event was made possible with the kind support of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Gender Studies (IZG)*