

# MARRIAGE MIGRANTS IN ASIA

ISSUE 2

## NEWSLETTER

April 2018

### **SPOTLIGHT** Gender Studies Programme at the Chinese University of Hong Kong



The Gender Studies Programme at the Chinese University of Hong Kong is the first and still the only programme on gender studies in tertiary education in Hong Kong. Established in 1997, the Gender Studies Programme is interdisciplinary in nature, with expertise drawn from different academic departments such as psychology, sociology, cultural studies, anthropology, social work, translation, history and linguistics. It offers coursework and research opportunities with an inter-disciplinary team of faculty members. It provides students with a broad-based education in traditional academic disciplines while specializing in gender studies. We are dedicated to promote awareness and interest in gender and sexuality issues on campus, in schools, and in the wider society.



---Retrieved from  
Gender Studies Programme at the Chinese University of Hong Kong  
<http://www.gender.cuhk.edu.hk/en-gb/about-us/history>

### *Dear project partners and friends,*



It is with great pleasure that I give you updates about our project in this second issue of the project newsletter. At NCKU, we have held two lectures, which helped our students and the public to better understand the misconceptions and challenges of marriage migrants in Taiwan.

Two events will take place in the following months. I encourage you to attend if you can. Our first workshop will be held at The Chinese University of Hong Kong on

June 8~9. Eight members will share teaching strategies and resources. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Hsun Hui and Jing to co-organize the workshop. Six of our members will also meet and discuss project issues on May 23 while attending WUN conference held at University of Western Australia. I thank Sue for helping with preparing the meeting.

Please join me to welcome Jin and Clara to our team. Both of them are young brilliant scholars whose specialty is gender and migration. I believe that they will contribute a great deal to our project.

I look forward to some good outcome at the upcoming events!

Sincerely,

Su-lin

National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan

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# Current Status

## Lecture Series I: 3/8

### Gender, Reproduction Crisis and Transnational Migration

Professor Hsiao-Chuan Hsia (夏曉鶻)



Professor Hsiao-Chuan from Shih Hsin University, the leading scholar and activist who inspired marriage migrants to empower themselves, gave an inspiring speech on marriage migrants in Taiwan. With some works, such as songs, dramas and picturebooks, of these new immigrant women, Professor Hsiao-Chuan shows the audience how hard the immigrants try to accommodate themselves to Taiwan society.

## Lecture Series II: 4/19

### Can Love Break the Border?

### Immigration and Migration of Transnational Marriage in Taiwan

Anna Wen-hui Tang (唐文慧)

Professor Anna Wen-hui from National Sun Yat-sen University looks into the phenomenon and problems of various types of transnational marriage. According to the “marriage market” in Taiwan, the statistics of marital status, the interviews with some people and the tradition that women should marry the one who is superior to her, Professor Anna Wen-hui discovers that the higher percentage of high-educated women than high-educated men remain single while the higher percentage of high-educated men than high-educated women remain single while the higher percentage of low-educated men than low-educated women remain single, which then lead to the cause of transnational marriage.



## Collection of Essays

The team at NCKU is planning a collection of essays on marriage migrants in Asia published by Chuliu Press, Taiwan at the end of 2018. Project team members are welcomed to submit their articles to Su-lin Yu and Le-Kun Tan, the editors of the book.

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Le-Kun Tan: [lekun1226@gmail.com](mailto:lekun1226@gmail.com)

# Upcoming Events

## Workshops

The first workshop will be held by Gender Studies Program at The Chinese University of Hong Kong where participants shall share teaching resources and strategies on June 8th and 9th, 2018. The second workshop will be held at Center for Gender and Women's Studies at National Cheng Kung University on October 5th, 2018. Participants will share their research findings. We will also invite NGO representatives, policy makers and marriage migrants to join us.

## Lecture Series

The College of Liberal Arts and Center for Gender and Women's Studies at NCKU will host lecture series on gender and migration in spring 2018. The lecture series will be opened to students and the public to deepen their understanding of marriage migrants. The third lecture will be held on May 24th, presented by Professor Pei-Chia Lan (藍佩嘉) from National Taiwan University.



## Related Publication

### The Possibilities of Heritage Language and Empowerment of New Female Immigrants in Taiwan

Lekun, Tan (陳麗君), National Cheng Kung University of Taiwan

During the 1990s, marriage immigrants provide Taiwanese society with two important reproductive labors: labors of reproduction and housekeeping. After arriving Taiwan, new immigrant women must immediately devote themselves to "motherhood." While learning local language, they are assigned to educate "the new Taiwanese children" as well. Based on the perspective of sociolinguistics, this research focuses on marriage immigrant women by adopting Landry & Allard's (1991, 1992, 1994) theory of macroscopic model of the determinants of additive and subtractive bilingualism. Through the transition of state policies and social values, the marginalized languages and cultures of new immigrant women have gradually turned out to be one of the cultural capitals.

Therefore, this paper observes the language attitudes of the participants involved in this research and the possibilities of language inheritance. By investigating the language attitudes and language usage through questionnaire, this paper also compares the collected data with the development of the policies in Taiwan. The purpose of this research is to remind Taiwanese policy makers and society of the necessity of emphasizing the possibilities of the cultural identification and empowerment of the new immigrant women through heritage language other than only focus on their cuisines, performances and female clothing as parts of Taiwanese multicultural elements. Furthermore, this paper brings up some suggestions for current language education policies in Taiwan.

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*We would be happy to welcome your comments and feedback! We also welcome input to our newsletter from project members so if you have something you would like to share with us, please do not hesitate to contact us.*

