



The feminizing city?

Productions of space for the post-Fordist sexual contract

Date: May 18 2017

Time: 10-13.00

Coffee and Lunch provided

Location: University of Amsterdam, REC C1.06

Chair: dr. Marguerite van den Berg

Guest: Professor Linda Peake (York University Canada)

Discussants: dr. Willem Boterman & dr. Jess Bier

Dear colleagues,

We would like to invite you to our workshop with Professor Linda Peake. In this workshop, we will investigate what post-Fordist gender notions mean for the urban. In the post-Fordist city, the sexual contract organizing the gendered division of labour and women's relegation to the suburb is fundamentally renegotiated. The enormous increase in women's participation in paid labour, the rise of dual-income families, the recent re-urbanization of families with children – all have been fundamental for urban change in the past fifty years and constitutional to contemporary urbanism. However much the importance of gender for urban space has been noted by (feminist) scholars, the impact of these significant changes in urban gender relations in the West remains seriously under-researched.

Are cities perhaps becoming more gender-inclusive as a result of this gender revolution? Is the city feminizing? What new exclusions are the result of this? What can urban studies learn from feminist theory and gender studies to understand contemporary urban changes? And, the other way around, what can specialists in the study of gender and sexuality learn from urban scholars in their understanding of contemporary gender notions?

Professor Peake's work in feminist urban studies is an inspiration to many that want to understand the gendered dynamics of such contemporary urbanisms. Recently, her edited volume (with Martina Rieker) *Feminist Interventions into the Urban* (Routledge, 2013) offers invaluable insights into what feminist theory can do to unravel the neoliberal city as well as to understand the problematic divide between (knowledges of) cities in the Global North and the Global South.

In this workshop, Willem Boterman (UvA, Geography, see next page for bio's) and Jess Bier (EUR Urban Sociology) will kick off the discussion by engaging with the work of Professor Peake, after which there is much room for discussion. The morning workshop will be followed in the afternoon by a plenary lecture by Professor Peake from 15.30-17.00: Urban Feminism in the 21st Century.

Please send an email to carmen.ferri@student.uva.nl before April 20th 2017 if you want to participate in this workshop.

We very much hope to see you there!

Marguerite van den Berg & Carmen Ferri

Guest Professor. Linda Peake

Linda Peake is Professor in the Urban Studies Program of the Department of Social Science at York University in Toronto where she has been teaching since 1989. Her research interests focus on issues of feminist geographies of gender, race and sexuality. She has long standing interests in urban-based research on women in cities, on whiteness and on developing anti-racist practices in Geography and feminist methodologies. She has published several books such as “Rethinking Feminist Interventions into the Urban” (Routledge 2013 together with Martina Rieker) and “Gender, Ethnicity and Place” (1999 with D. Alissa Trotz).



Chair dr. Marguerite van den Berg

Marguerite van den Berg is assistant professor of Sociology at the University of Amsterdam. Her research is positioned where urban studies, gender studies and sociologies of culture overlap. Her current research project concerns ways in which workers in the urban service economy perform backstage aesthetic labour when dressing for work and the role aesthetics play in increasingly precarious labour markets. Her most recent book is “Gender in the Post-Fordist Urban – The Gender Revolution in Planning and Public Policy” (Palgrave Macmillan 2017).



Discussant dr. Jess Bier

Jess Bier is an assistant professor of urban sociology at Erasmus University Rotterdam. She engages with the geographies of scientific and technical knowledge. Her work is situated at the confluence of Science and Technology Studies (STS), critical geography, and postcolonial theory. In her postdoc research, she analyzed the changing spatialities of efforts to monitor international financial flows during the current economic crisis. In her first book, “Mapping Israel, Mapping Palestine” (MIT Press 2017), she analyzes how segregated landscapes have shaped digital cartography in Jerusalem and the West Bank since 1967.



Discussant dr. Willem Boterman

Willem Boterman is assistant professor Urban Geography at UvA. His research interests are the social transformation of urban space, with a particular interest in intersections of class and gender. He works on several projects such as the relationship between gender, parenthood and gentrification; middle class politics in the city. His main research project focuses on issues of school choice and residential choice across class and ethnicity and how these practices co-produce social and spatial inequalities in the city.



This workshop is organized and funded in a collaboration of the Amsterdam Research Centre for Gender and Sexuality and the Centre for Urban Studies.