

Name	Roland PFEFFERKORN	City / Country of the Home Organization
		Strasbourg, France
Title of Research	Gender and social relations between the sexes	
【Home Organization & Title】 Institution of Sociology, Strasbourg University Professor, Director		
【Invitation Period】 November 16, 2009 ~ December 16, 2009		
【Counterpart at Kyoto University】 Prof. Emiko Ochiai (Graduate School of Letters)		
【Title of Lecture】 Gender and Social Sex Relations: Theories, Methods and Concepts		
【Seminar / Conference Presentation】 Joint seminar with Prof. Meenakshi Thapan (School of Economics, Delhi University, India) Title: Hot Controversial Debate on Prostitution among French Scholars: Around the Organization of a Workshop on Prostitution. Date: December 16, 2009 Number of Participants: approximately 40 Organizer: Global COE, Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University		
		
Prof. Thapan		

【Results/Achievements】

Education

My current research focuses on inequalities in modern societies, particularly in my country, France. I published several books on this topic, both on empirical and theoretical aspects and considering inequalities between all relevant social groups, first of all between social classes and between women and men.

About women and men relations, especially, I have focused lately on conceptual developments in terms of gender and social relations between the sexes in the field of sociology. I presented a lecture in the department of sociology about this topic: “Gender and social relations between the sexes: Theories, methods and concepts; Introduction to French and Western feminist sociology”.

First I tried to present some important authors (feminists and social scientists) who contributed to break off from naturalism: Mary Wollstonecraft, Olympe de Gouges, Alexandra Kollontaï, Simone de Beauvoir, Betty Friedan, Germaine Greer... or John Stuart Mill, Friedrich Engels, Georg Simmel... I also insisted on new conceptual advances introduced by authors belonging to the feminist movement in the seventies, particularly in the debate on equality/difference, which in several countries contributed to split the feminist movement. Another important part of the lectures was about the presentation of the emergence of gender, its importance, the different ways of theorizing gender as a power relation (from A. Oakley to G. Rubin, J. Butler, J. Lorber and J. Acker, J. W. Scott), and the limitations of that concept. Finally I focused on the sexual division of labor and on analyses in terms of social relations between the sexes (with the research in France of H. Hirata and D. Kergoat)

I also participated in the “Next-Generation Global Workshop” (November 21-22) which was a remarkable opportunity to share views between junior and senior scholars. I believe the participation in this workshop produced a good educational effect through active and high level discussions. I was an adviser for presentations about sociology of sexuality and I had the possibility to make a short presentation on recent developments in this new area in sociology, particularly French research led by Alfred Spira, Michel Bozon, Nathalie Bajos and others. During my stay I had many very stimulating conversations with colleagues of the department.

Research

The Global COE Program in Kyoto University is tracing historical changes in gender roles in Asia in the era of modernization with the agenda of “Reconstruction of the Intimate and Public Spheres”. On December 16, 2009, I gave a presentation in a joint seminar centered on gender and body with Prof. Meenakshi Thapan (School of economics, Delhi University, India) on the following topic: “The Hot Controversial Debate among French Scholars on Prostitution. Around the organization of a workshop on prostitution”. The aim of my communication was to analyze a recent scientific

controversy on prostitution, violence and work. First I presented the opposite policies in European countries... and the split among feminists (Abolitionist policies in Sweden versus Regulation of prostitution in the Netherlands and Germany, but also more fuzzy situations in most other European countries) and I summarized the chronology of this controversial debate. The actors involved in the controversy and their arguments were discussed within the frame of the registers of justification. My presentation focused particularly on opposite definitions of prostitution, as well as differences in styles of research.

My stay in Kyoto gave me a unique opportunity to concentrate on my research. I finished a paper about Inequalities at work (which will be published in a French dictionary of work). I also participated in different conferences : November 23 Symposium 1: Political Economy of Care in Asian Societies (Results from the UNRISD Project) with presentations by Ito Peng, Rajni Parliwala and Aya Abe ; in the Lecture by Chang Kyung-Sup and Symposium 2: Asian Studies on Asian Intimacy with presentations by Eun Kiso, Nguyen Huu Minh, Thanet Wongyannava, Brij Tankha and Emiko Ochiai ; November 24 Business meeting of GCOE Program with discussions about the new academic *Journal of Intimate and Public Spheres*; November 26 Participation in the conference of Philippe Mossé; December 7 Participation in the Conference of Maurice Godelier. Special thanks to all the members of the Sociology Department. To sum up, these few weeks spent in Kyoto in a very friendly, kind and intellectually stimulating atmosphere gave me a new impetus for developing new research directions.

