



Let's Go Conferencing!



The Asian Criminological Society (ACS) is a non-profit scientific organization that promotes the study of criminology and criminal justice in Asia and brings together criminologists from all over the world. English is used as its official vernacular for communication and discussion, making presentation and analysis possible and easier for me.

Therefore, I opted to be a part of ACS because it is professional society of scholars and practitioners that promotes the collaboration among famous scholars and practitioners, and encourages young scholars interested in criminology and criminal justice to participate. I encourage any of our colleagues interested in criminology and criminal justice to attend the next meeting.

—Aikins ASIAMA



I attended the ASA annual meeting in 2019 and presented my work in a roundtable session. As one of the biggest conferences in sociology, ASA offered me a great experience in exploring trending topics and new directions in our discipline, meeting those big names in person, and discovering available resources for research.

As for my presentation, it was a good chance for me to put myself around people and step out of my specialties to hear new ideas that I might not have thought about. In short, the ASA conference provides opportunities for both professional development and confidence building. I highly recommend you participate in it!

—Yingtong LAI



I participated in the Asia Conference of ICSA (International Chinese Sociological Association) held at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology in 2018, which was the first year of my PhD program at CUHK. I chose this conference not just because

the location is close to my university, but also because it gathered most outstanding scholars in my research field (social stratification and mobility in China). Therefore, on the one hand, it was a good opportunity for me to learn how to conduct excellent research by listening to those big names' speeches, and on the other hand, as a fresh PhD student, I also got helpful comments from both senior professors and peer researchers by presenting my work. As to the preparation for the conference, I had an ongoing study at that time, so I sent the abstract to the committee and luckily got accepted. Choosing a right session with a theme corresponding to your research is very important and that would increase the chance of being selected. I encourage all the young researcher to participate in conferences like this, it would be a precious and unforgettable experience.

— Peng WANG

CONFERENCES

Xu Xinzhi. "Resolving troubles in automatic registration: Customers calibrating their responses during facial recognition". Paper to be presented at the 17th International Pragmatics Conference, June 27-July 02, 2021.

Public Childcare Facilities in Hong Kong

Lingxi CHEN



In Hong Kong, the government and the public have paid considerable attention to the construction of public childcare facilities, but how these facilities shape people's childcare practices and evaluations of these facilities remains unclear. By employing materiality as the theoretical perspective, I explored how the materiality of public childcare facilities shapes childcare practices and evaluations on these facilities in Hong Kong. Based on ethnography and in-depth interviews, two of my main findings are as follow:

My first finding is that the space and location influence the collaboration among caregivers during the diaper changing process. During my fieldwork, I found that caregivers usually cooperated with each other to complete the diaper changing when using public nursing rooms. When the public childcare facilities situated in a large or an independent space separated from male and female washroom, it helps facilitate the cooperation among care givers in diaper changing, resulting in caregivers' positive evaluations of these facilities. If the spatial size of public diaper changing facilities is small or these facilities are located within male or female washrooms, it hinders the corporations between male and female caregivers to complete diaper changing process, and thus causes caregivers' negative evaluations, such as 'inconvenient', on the public diaper-changing facilities.

My second finding is that the location of public childcare facilities influences the reproduction of the traditional gender labor division in childcare in Hong Kong, which considers women as the primary caregivers of children. On the one hand, it hinders male caregivers from doing childcare tasks and reproduces the traditional gender labor division in Hong Kong when public childcare facilities are only located within female washrooms but not male washrooms. On the other hand, some public childcare facilities enable men to do childcare and thus help deconstruct the traditional gender labor division in childcare practices, such as childcare facilities situated in male washrooms, washrooms for people with disabilities, and independent nursing rooms. Compared to childcare facilities inside male washrooms, independent nursing rooms may more effectively deconstruct traditional gender labor division in childcare, because it may be embarrassing when male caregivers bring female children into male washrooms. Therefore, caregivers may consider independent nursing rooms as more convenient and effective for males to take care of female children.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

✓ Call for papers

- Special issue on Flexible Work and Family. **Deadline for Manuscript: August 31, 2021.** [\[See the ad\]](#)
- Special issue on New Dialogues between Medical Sociology and Disability Studies. **Deadline for abstracts: July 5, 2021.** [\[See the ad\]](#)

✓ Job ads:

- Assistant Professor in Sociology, Department of Applied Social Science, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. **Deadline: October 31, 2021.** [\[See the ad\]](#)