

Mothering and the Racialized Production of (Child, School, & Property) Value in New York City



Maria Kromidas

March 27

11:30 - 1:00

McElhinney 111

This lecture examines middle-class moms' struggles and experiences to make good for their kids in a context of insecurity, risk, and scarcity in one of the global centers of capital, New York City. Middle-class mothers' care work is ignored, devalued, or ridiculed. Grounded in the voices of a diverse set of women in three different neighborhoods in Queens, this project explores their labors in two senses. Care work is one of the primary vehicles through which to construct raced and classed "persons," individuals with a past, present and future that belong to specific communities and rooted in matrices of social relations, embedded in dynamic practices through which race, class and space are lived, experienced and transformed in NYC. The lens of mothers reveals a different perspective on race and class formation and suggests possibilities for liberated futures.

Maria Kromidas is Associate Professor of Anthropology at William Paterson University in New Jersey. She is the author of *City Kids: Transforming Racial Baggage* (Rutgers University Press). She has published in the journals *Anthropological Theory*, *Childhood: A Global Journal of Child Research*, *Critique of Anthropology*, *Harvard Educational Review*, and *Curriculum Inquiry*.

Department of Comparative Cultural Studies

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