Join us for the 2016-17 Center for STS Colloquium Series!

Ramah McKay

Life in Circulation: Global Health, Urban Relations, and Gendered Medicine in Maputo

Wednesday February 15th from 12:00-1:30 PM in Hagerty Library L-33

Drawing from analyses of science, technology, and medicine in Africa, this talk focuses on the gendered urban and transnational circuits through which young urban residents seek and claim medical care. In a context where humanitarian organizations and global health projects are important sources of medical care and treatment, I ask how the structures of urban life (from real estate prices to transportation systems) intersect with gendered relations and medical practices in women's quests for medical services. This approach suggests that urban life, and especially the lives of women in the city, is a particularly apt site for asking about the kinds of subjects and forms of health that are available in the midst of transnational medical regimes. Ultimately, this approach argues for greater and more expansive attention to the role of urban space, economy, and exchange in understanding health in local and transnational spaces.

Remah McKay is an assistant professor in the Department of History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania. Trained as a socio-cultural and medical anthropologist (PhD Stanford), her research focuses on the politics of health in Mozambique. Her first book, forthcoming in 2017, traces the lives and afterlives of two transnational medical projects in Mozambique -- projects that enacted deeply divergent understandings of what care means, what it does, and who does it. Ongoing research in and beyond Mozambique focuses on the making of transnational medical economies in Africa. She teaches courses on NGOs, humanitarianism, global health, and health and healing in Africa.

For more information or to join the list-serv, please email kaj68@drexel.edu.

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