

Migration, Islam and Masculinities: Transforming Emigration and Immigration Societies

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Transforming masculinities in the German migration society. Autobiographical narrations from fathers of the second generation of Turkish immigrants.

To analyze masculinities in migration societies, it is necessary to understand the complex social inequalities at play in these contexts. However, intersectionality is a new aspect in German men's studies and there are only few studies that systematically explore the intersections of masculinity, ethnicity, class and other social differences.

In my lecture, I will be presenting some of the first interim findings of my qualitative dissertation project. Within the theoretical and methodical framework of biographical research, I will be interpreting the autobiographical narrations of a number of fathers of second generation Turkish immigrants. By focussing on the fathers, the subject of family orientation becomes a central aspect of the study. The fathers' narratives display their cross-generational perspective, which enables an analysis of their relationships to the preceding and following generation. How fatherhood is arranged between the models of the "breadwinner" on the one hand and the model of the "committed father" on the other hand is also an important question. However, ethnic discrimination in the educational system and on the labour market have to be taken into account when analysing this question, as these aspects strongly affect the male migrants' patterns of living and coping.

I will be presenting reconstructions of selected single case studies, which will reveal the constructed processes of 'doing masculinity' and 'doing ethnicity,' influenced by social positionalities of gender and ethnic socialization. In this way, a detailed description will be developed, presenting the narratives of location and positionality (Anthias) in the context of masculinity and ethnicity.