Inaugural Harriet B. Presser Lecture

Women, Work, and Care: What Can We Learn from Cross-National Comparisons?

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Abstract

The speaker will address the theoretical underpinnings of recent scholarship on women, work, and care. She will introduce the policy category of “work-family reconciliation policy”, and assess current patterns of cross-national variation, with an emphasis on variation across affluent countries. She will present an assessment of policy consequences, both intended and unintended. The lecture will close with remarks about the origins of the meager policy provision in the United States.

Speaker Bio

Janet Gornick attended Harvard University, where she was awarded a BA (Psychology and Social Relations 1980), an MPA (Kennedy School 1987), and a PhD (Political Economy and Government 1994). She is currently Professor of Political Science and Sociology at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. From September 2006 to August 2016, she served as Director of LIS (formerly, the Luxembourg Income Study), a cross-national data archive and research center located in Luxembourg, with a satellite office at the Graduate Center. As of September 1, 2016, she serves as Director of the James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality, and as Director of the US Office of LIS. Most of her research is comparative and concerns social welfare policies and their impact on gender disparities in the labor market and/or on income inequality.