

**XXXV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA)**

**“Diálogos de saberes”**

Peru, April 29 – May 1, 2017

Panel:

***Examining gender, sexualities and sexual markets in natural resource extraction sites in Latin America***

Coordinators: Susanne Hofmann (PUEG-UNAM) and Melisa Cabrapan Duarte (CONICET-IIDyPCA-UNRN/FFyL-UBA)

**Abstract:**

We invite researchers who study gender dynamics, sexualities and sexual markets in contexts of natural resource extraction in Latin America to submit papers based on empirical research. We are interested in exploring the effects of extractive activities on the configuration of gender relations between men and women, and the emergence and permanence of the sex trade.

Different studies show that extractive activities have significant sociocultural impacts on the lives of both men and women, and the relationships between them. Extraction sites - predominantly male due to the type of labor they require - configure specific masculinities, and in many cases, stereotypes of hegemonic masculinity are reinforced. In these contexts, gender relations are rearticulated in different ways: the (unequal) distribution of labor is accentuated; the economic dependence of women increases, and consequently, their vulnerability to domestic violence; an increased demand for services involving alcohol, drugs, gambling activities and sex occurs. Thus, there is a marked tendency in social studies, but also in public intervention and activism to associate extraction sites with the existence of criminal sex trafficking networks.

The aim of this panel is to understand the broader socio-cultural transformations associated with extraction processes, with special emphasis on gender, sexuality, sexual-affective cultures, sexual economies, relationship models and parenting practices at such sites.

Submissions may address the following questions or considerations:

In what way do extractive activities impact on the configuration of gender relations and sexuality, and on relationship models and on both productive and reproductive labor? What kinds of masculinities predominate in these environments and what effects do they produce? In which way do extractive cultures affect the lives of different groups of women

in terms of race, ethnicity and class? What cultural institutions and social networks allow the migration of men and women to extraction sites? What are the socio-cultural and economic conditions that give rise to the existence and permanence of the sex trade in such locations? What effects do activism and the discourse to combat human trafficking have on the functioning of sexual markets in the context of natural resource extraction?

We ask those interested in participating in this panel to send their title and abstract of the presentation (maximum 250 words), including their name and institutional affiliation to the following email addresses:

Susanne Hofmann: [s.hofmann@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:s.hofmann@hotmail.co.uk)

Melisa Cabrapan Duarte: [melisa\\_cd@hotmail.com.ar](mailto:melisa_cd@hotmail.com.ar)

Submissions must be received by **August 15, 2016**.

Herewith, we also inform you that the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) offers participants travel funding. The deadline to apply for a LASA travel grant is **September 7, 2016, 17:00 EDT** (among other requirements, the submission of the full paper will be requested by that date).

For details please see:  
<https://lasa.international.pitt.edu/esp/congress/selectiongrants.asp>

Finally, it is required that all panel participants renew their LASA membership until **September 7, 2016, 17:00 EDT**.

You can do this under the LASA website's "membership" section:

<https://lasa.international.pitt.edu/esp/membership/>