

Goethe Universität-Frankfurt am Main - Koreastudien laden herzlich ein zum Gastvortrag im Wintersemester 2012/2013.

**“WOMEN'S BODY AND SEXUALITY IN SOUTH KOREA: DEVELOPMENTAL STATE AND FAMILY PLANNING IN THE 1960S-70S “**

**Dr. Jaok Kwon**

(Research Associate of Max Weber Institute of Sociology,  
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am

**Donnerstag, 31. Januar 2013, 18 - 20 Uhr  
Juridicum 717, Campus Bockenheim**

Over several decades, the birth rate in South Korea has dramatically decreased. However, it is very questionable whether the family planning has offered Korean women access to reproductive rights.

In this lecture, we will explore how Korean women's body and sexuality have been defined and regulated by the state. We will especially focus on the family planning which was strongly driven by the developmental state in the 1960s-1970s.

First, we will look at how family planning was sprouted in Korean society within the international political context. Secondly, we will examine in what ways it had been settled as a nation-building policy of the Park Chung-hee's regime (1962-1979). We will also pay attention to the systematic strategy of the developmental state to promote birth control by placing the family planning as a tool for pursuing a 'better' and 'modern' life. Finally, we will critically question whether the family planning in the 1960s-1970s contributed to the development of women's self-determination on their bodies and sexuality and how this policy has so far influenced women's reproductive rights.

**Jaok Kwon** is research associate at Max Weber Institute of Sociology of Heidelberg University. She joined Heidelberg University in June 2012. Born in the Republic of Korea, she was trained as sociologist (M.A. and Ph.D. from the Graduate School of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University, Japan). Her research interests have focused on gender and development, labor, women's movements and gender politics in East Asian countries. Prior to joining Heidelberg University, she was a lecturer at Hitotsubashi University, Japan (2011-2012), visiting fellow of East West Center, USA, and a postdoctoral researcher of Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan (2010-2011).