

Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology

SPEAKER SERIES

Single Mothers of color, Bureaucratic Torture, and the Divinity of the Nation-State

Anthropologist Smadar Lavie, holder of the Simon and Riva Spatz Visiting Chair, will discuss her new book, *Wrapped in the Flag of Israel: Mizrahi Single Mothers and Bureaucratic Torture* 2nd edition (July 2018). The Mizrahim are Jews from North Africa and the Middle East who comprise Israel's majority Jewish population. They suffer from systematic discrimination by Israel's Ashkenazi Jews who drive Israeli policymaking. Lavie's is the first English language ethnography about single mothers in the Middle East. This is one of the very few ethnographies about single mothers outside North America. The book explores Israel's intra-Jewish racial and ethnic conflicts from a feminist perspective. It analyzes how the plight of Mizrahi single mothers relates to Israel's occupation of the Palestinian territories, as well as its tensions with Iran and other neighboring Arab countries. Lavie uncovers the conundrum of loving and staying loyal to a state that uses its bureaucratic system to repeatedly inflict pain on its non-European majority who, despite this pain, is willing to sacrifice their lives for what they conceive of as the state's security.

Dr. Smadar Lavie

Simon and Riva Spatz Visiting Chair in Jewish Studies
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Dalhousie University

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 30th, 2018

Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building, Rm. #1016

ALL WELCOME!