

Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology

PhD Proposal Presentation

Funding for Women's Charitable Organizations in Canada

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In the past decade, women's rights have resurfaced as a key priority on Canada's federal political agenda. This follows a period of government cutbacks and austerity budgets which reduced funding for women's organizations. These cutbacks put many organizations in precarious positions because government grants are often a primary source of funding for Canadian organizations and can affect both day-to-day operations and their survival long-term. In 2015, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau positioned his newly elected Liberal government as feminist, appointed half his cabinet women, and introduced gender-based analysis plus (GBA+) to the assessment of almost all aspects of government. The commitment to gender issues brought hope to women's organizations and renewed attention to how governments support them. The relationship between funding agencies and organizations is complicated and a government commitment to gender equity does not necessarily lead to more funding for women's non-profit organizations. It is unclear how women's organizations navigate their relationship with government funding agencies and how this relationship affects their ability to carry out their activities. The dissertation will examine how women's organizations navigate changes in funding practices, policy, and reporting requirements for non-profit charitable organizations. It will do so through three research papers. The first will explore the difference between a woman's organization, a feminist organization, and a service organization. The second will examine the relationship between government regimes and how women's charitable organizations report their activities. The third will document how women's charitable organizations perceive and navigate their relationships with federal, provincial, and municipal funding agencies.

DATE: Friday, Oct. 16th, 2020

TIME: 1:30 p.m. ADT, 12:30 p.m. EDT, 10:30 a.m. MDT